

THE NATIONAL
PEACEMAKER

By J. F. HENKLE



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THE PEACEMAKER

A TREATISE ON

PRESENT CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

By JOHN F. HENKLE

The Social, Economic, Political,
Labor, and other Problems which
confront the citizens of this coun-
try, and the only solution thereof

Price, \$3.00

CHICAGO

1904

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PREFACE.

THE NATIONAL PEACEMAKER is dedicated to the reading and thinking public of North America. The rough ashlar contained herein may seem too jagged to sensitive minds, but if they will stop to consider that some of our citizens must be roughly handled to cause them to *think* and then *act*, we hope a justification can be maintained for our crude treatment of the subjects reviewed.

The idea of the various matters under consideration is to arouse an interest in the minds of all free men and women in North America for the betterment of the present and future generations in their material welfare. So far as we know, no previous writer has attempted to offer a feasible and practical way whereby the laborer can hope to receive the fruits of his labors and at the same time protect property and capital, which we think we have shown.

After reading THE NATIONAL PEACEMAKER please advise the undersigned, by mail, of your criticisms and suggestions, in as concise form as possible. If the press would send us a copy of the issue containing notice of THE NATIONAL PEACEMAKER, we will consider it a great favor bestowed upon us.

Fraternally,

JOHN F. HENKLE.

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INTRODUCTION.

Halt! Ere we as a people become engaged in fratricidal war. Stop. Consider, ere reason becomes dethroned, and rashness, urged on by our selfish interests, turns unrest into chaotic disorder or civil war. Look at the fierce battles now being carried on—while more or less governed by law and order—between the various labor organizations as to supremacy and against capital for the mastery. Yes; look at the battles royal that are ever and anon being waged between the capitalistic classes, for selfish motives only, and then ask yourself if it is not high time to call a halt. Consider!

Not another political subdivision of the earth's surface enjoys as many and varied utilities and advantages as do the people of the United States, and yet for the want of proper and wise considerations they are the most tumultuous, dissatisfied, and—seeing they have a sovereign remedy—they are surely the most derelict in concerted action that will insure

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quiet, peace, and happiness, not only for our own beloved land, but incidentally be the means of ameliorating the conditions among the people of all civilizations.

It will not be time misspent to direct our thoughts back to colonial times. Passing over many of the jealousies that existed among them, and coming down to the time when they formed articles of confederation, we find a heterogeneous people scattered along the eastern portion of what now is a small part of the United States. Their mode of interchange of commodities, ideas and visits were governed by the most primitive methods. They knew little as individuals of even the people of the colony in which they happened to reside, and far less of other colonies in the confederation. If the politicians of those earlier days had been able to collect money to run the confederacy, it is extremely doubtful if they would ever have urged their constituents to form a constitution to take the place of the articles of confederation, and perhaps we would still be living under that federation to this day. Politicians will never take the initiatory, but have to be driven by dire necessity to act in favor

of the masses. In proof of this assertion, we will quote Article V. of the Constitution of the United States: "The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as a part of this Constitution. when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by convention in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided, that no amendment, which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate." Those great Solons who framed the Constitution of the United States were careful to keep the amending power thereof in the hands of the politicians, and nothing short of an overwhelming demand on the part of the people will ever

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wrest it from them. This should be the duty of the people regardless of party affiliations. It is true they started out in the preamble of the Constitution with the declaration that, "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." This will show the reader that we must rely upon the declaration in the preamble, for it declares that "We, the people," not we, the states or we, anybody else, do form this Constitution, for our warrant to amend the Constitution without the circumlocution of the Congress. It is likely that the politicians of all the past used like platitudes to catch the eye of the masses, and then reserved to themselves and their subsequent followers the right to amend the instrument, but in our case the Supreme Court of the United States have established the preamble of the Constitution a part thereof, and by virtue thereof have affirmed that the people are the sovereigns of these United States.

Therefore, it is for the people to say whether they will amend the present Federal Constitution or create a new one to take its place; they, the people, are the sovereigns from whose decision there is no appeal. If the people of the various colonies had then been as homogeneous as they are to-day, and had as many advantages of intercourse as we have, it is fair to suppose that they would have merged these colonies into one nation instead of converting them into several states as they did. If such a condition should have obtained, then there would never have been a call for such a book as this. But we must take conditions as we find them, and if they are inconsistent we should immediately find a remedy. In our case we have a sure, peaceable and perfect legal right as a sovereign people to correct the evil that all must confess should be done at once, for the happiness and tranquillity of our people. The poor may rail at the rich until doomsday, and the capitalist may claim that the poor are inconsistent and unreasonable in their demands, but this will not give rest to the nation or remedy the defects. It would be well for all parties in interest to understand that

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we have the most perfect system it is in the power of man to create for the purpose of creating capitalistic barons at the present time. If such is the wish of the reader then he should exert all his energy toward the maintenance of our present complex system of state legislatures, for nothing is wanting. But, if none are so selfish then all should energetically strive to merge all political power in a truly representative nation—one in which all citizens would be compelled to exercise the right of franchise under drastic penalties for non-performance of duty. It is a debatable question whether it would be better to amend the present Constitution of the United States to give all legislative power to the Congress or form a new Constitution and have it adopted by a vote of the people, or by convention. One thing is certain that one or the other mode must soon be adopted to insure tranquillity among our people or a state of anarchy will beget a fratricidal war of more magnitude than ever has been known in the history of man. He who can complacently view the combinations that are taking place in all branches of industry as well as of labor, in all its ramifications is surely an optimist whose

vision is obtuse indeed. But why flounder any longer when we know that a large majority of our citizens are convinced that the Congress and the Exchequer of the United States could supply statutes broad enough to reach all our civil, military and naval needs for our whole people, to our better satisfaction than the forty-five states do now. State statutes are fast losing the support and confidence of the masses—and justly so, too; and the State courts are not held in that reverential awe they were in days of yore, but not so with the enactments of the Congress or Exchequer, nor the respect of the judicial decisions of the United States courts. It is estimated that of the criminals who are caught—having disobeyed the laws of the Federal government, at least ninety per cent of the number plead guilty. Perhaps the main reason for this is because political pull has no weight with the courts of the United States. In State courts it often happens that the judge on the bench—even in equity cases—decides for the litigant who is supposed to have the greatest political pull, and against the fundamental principle of the law; yes, it has come to that pass in many state courts that the lawyer or

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solicitor may show his client what his rights are in law or at equity, and the client may furnish ample proof to sustain his case or cause, and by indubitable and unimpeachable testimony, and yet the trial judge viciously, and sneeringly decides adversely. Very little scandal has ever been traced to the judges of the United States courts, but not so with those of the State courts, as anyone who has the entree into the offices and society of lawyers can testify. One would think that any man who had the legal knowledge capable to fill the office of judge would feel it his bounden duty to administer it impartially, but the facts do not confirm the supposition. Some lay it to commercialism, some to too much political pressure, and some to a vanity superinduced by the deference paid them by the legal fraternity, to wealth and social position; but be the cause what it may, to the mind of an honest person, he is the vilest wretch to be found in the waters, on the land, or that flies the air, and should be dumped into the dead sea of oblivion. The public can smile at the trickery of lawyers and solicitors, but when a judge can be found who will brazenly condone his acts of perfidy, it is

high time that the people rise in their might and change the organic law so that such villainy will not and can not continue. There is an auxiliary of the judiciary that should be radically remodeled, namely, masters-in-chancery. The present mode of providing this judicial side door is for the trial judge to appoint a lawyer for a specific cause or to appoint one to act during his (the judge's) term of office. All masters-in-chancery should be elected for life or during good behavior and paid a salary out of the public treasury; this might extend to the court stenographer.

As a nation we are honest, but as individuals we are so bound up in self that it almost amounts to criminal intent to do wrong. To be satisfied we must feel that we are getting the best end of the bargain at all times. Now, if as a nation we are honest, it shows that we, as individuals, have some redeeming qualities. Would it not be wise and prudent to enlarge this national quality, and perhaps more of us would become honest in all our dealings? Would it not be a good idea for the secular press to devote more space to the discussion of this matter than they have heretofore done,

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even if it would diminish the space devoted to capital and labor that now crowds their columns? It is true that man could dispense with the use of capital and still exist—as it is only a medium for the exchange of commodities and service—but labor is indispensable and co-existent with life itself. He who sneers at labor, be it of brawn or brain, is too imbecile to be counted one of the component parts when making up a nation—poor, pitiable creature, we feel sorry for such an one.

STATES' LAWS.

The United States is composed of forty-five sovereign states, with a full complement of executive, legislative and judiciary, in which each executes, legislates and adjudicates for the people within their boundaries to the exclusion of all other states; the only supervision they have to fear is the criticism of a free press and the restraint vouchsafed by the Constitution of the Federal government which curtails their powers to within their boundaries and yet—paradoxical as it may seem—lets them, through corporation acts, overlap all states and territories

and ramify the commercial world. Take the railroads of America—they are national in extent and yet they are the creatures of state legislatures; again, some states, for pecuniary reasons, enact such liberal corporation laws that the denizens of other states go to them to procure charters and then rely on the comity of states to give them legal protection in all other states; thus we see a see-saw game constantly being played to the profit of the legal fraternity and the annoyance of the judiciary—and all to be paid for by the general public. Waste! Waste! Waste! And no way to remedy matters so long as we retain our complex system of governments. The intelligent public cannot help seeing that the simplest way to correct this evil would be to either amend the Federal constitution so that all laws would be enacted by the Congress or Exchequer and place in abeyance all state laws or form a new Constitution for all our people, in which the citizens would become unified and consolidated into one whole nation. Too many of our state legislatures are corrupt or imbecile, but if they were saints, the time has come to relegate them to history. Yes, we could even forego the pleas-

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ure of having a governor and his staff, to act as headpiece at celebrations, and still live. Many will say that it would be cheaper to improvise a demigod for each occasion than to continue our present economic blunders much longer. There may be a few benighted fossils who may yet fear to consolidate all executive, legislative, and judicial power in the nation, but if they will think a little and read on, they may have the bandage torn from their mind's eye before we close.

NATIONAL LIBERTY.

Liberty regulated by law will be safe when the servants of the people are all elected by a direct vote of all the citizens. It is silly to suppose that the elector has sense enough to vote intelligent as to who should be the proper person to serve as President or Governor, and not be able to choose a proper person to act as policeman. A nation, at best, can only be a fictitious idealism presumed to be able to unify our whole populace for the happiness, security, and benefit of each individual, and as such represent our single and united interests

in the family of nations. The only right that will justify a free people in adopting a constitution is that all persons may be equally protected in their natural freedom, and anything that can be better or more economically done for the individual by the nation should in all reason be the active business of the nation to perform. When each unit is properly protected by the co-operation of the whole, then will the fabric be able to withstand internal jars or external connivance of other nations. There is a general and wide misunderstanding as to the laws of these United States, by a large majority of the people of the old world, for they suppose we enjoy unbounded freedom, and when those who arrive here find they have been led to harbor erroneous ideas, they are completely at sea—they soon find that what is law in one state is different in another. In mechanics, when an old machine is worn out or it has been superseded by a more perfect invention, it is relegated to the scrap pile. Would it not be better to consign the state constitutions to the rag merchant in imitation of the old machine which has outlasted its usefulness? They could be replaced by a single constitution that

would answer our purpose much better and far cheaper as well as more satisfactory to ourselves and perhaps to other nations. *Nations have arisen and fallen and will continue to do so under any form of government that may be formulated, until they realize the fact that governments like individuals must learn to keep in touch with the era of their existence.* In no other way can a political subdivision of people hope to shun oblivion. The complex laws of our country are a century behind the attainments obtained in any other branch of human endeavor among us. Perhaps the reason is because the people in their mad strife for increasing property and accumulating money, neglect to seek an organic law commensurate with the object to be attained. The whole people should understand that in a free country each is responsible for a good or bad organic law, and that there is no way to shift or neglect the responsibility without incurring the ignominy of the future historian, for they will weigh our intelligence by our actions or inactions. Our people have been passing through a formative state, and as we enjoyed boundless opportunities and a seeming inexhaustive area

of fertile land to give remunerative employment to our ever increasing millions, we neglected state and national affairs or—which is about the same thing—delegated those to make, execute and adjudicate the laws who had not the genius to keep abreast with the development that was being attained in other sciences. The sooner our whole people realize that they are the real sovereigns and it is to self-interest for them to not rely upon party candidates to protect and amplify our rights, the better. Ask a hundred men at random this question “Had not the laws in the United States better be uniform all over our domain?” and at least ninety will answer “Yes.” Then, think you that it would take a great effort to have the laws to conform to the wishes of so large a majority?

THE EXCHEQUER, ITS POWERS, ETC.

A Constitution is an organic compromise written by some one who can blend into articles and sections such ideas as a majority of a convention will ratify and therefore has never been an entirety. Of course, the writer has heard the ideas of all the delegates expressed, and it

becomes his duty to come as near giving expression to all of those ideas as is possible, having in view the subject matter. This being the case there should be a periodical time stated in every constitution when a convention should be elected to cancel or amend any article or section, or perhaps enlarge the same as time had shown to be best for our whole people. Don't lose sight of the fact that as a nation we are honest, and your fear for holding a constitutional convention at stated times will vanish. Years of patient study has convinced the writer that we should have another co-ordinate branch in our government to be called the Exchequer, which should be elected at large—say, seven for seven years; seven for fourteen years, and seven for twenty-one years, and that once in seven years thereafter seven new members, plus all vacancies, should be elected for a full term and to fill out unexpired time. None should be younger than thirty-five years of age at the time of election, nor should any of them be permitted to engage either directly or indirectly in any commercial enterprise whatsoever during incumbency. To this body of persons delegate the sole power to raise and expend

money for public purposes and ratify treaties, as is now done by the Senate. How can we expect a congressman who is elected for two years to construct a satisfactory tariff or a just income tax? There is another reason for such a small body and that is that they could always be in session and ever ready to act, as well as giving them time to become proficient in the subject matters—no small subject.

The acts of the Exchequer should not be subject to the veto power of the President as the acts of the Congress are, for the idea is to divorce this body from the domain of politics so that they could be as free to act as the United States judiciary now is in the purview of their sphere. Of course, the Exchequer would immediately create a number of departments and assign a competent chief clerk over each so that they would be relieved of the details of the business. These several departments would be required to make daily reports to the Exchequer through the Exchequer's proper committees, so that each day the sitting body would be able to give additional orders to any department that might need them. Twenty-one persons could not attend to the details of the

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business of the country, but they could pass upon them when properly tabulated. We should expect some time to elapse before all the departments could be got in good working order. Time and patience would cure all the initiatory defects, and soon a practical system would be evolved that would work in harmony in all its parts. Should this body find that any duty assigned to it could be better looked after by the Congress, or that some matters that were delegated to the Congress that should of right be under their jurisdiction, they could refer it to the next constitutional convention for remedial action. This is one of the reasons for making it compulsory to hold a constitutional convention every ten years. We cannot be expected to foresee what the wants of the people may require in the distant future. If those great minds who framed the Federal Constitution had known the wants of the future, it is fair to suppose those patriots would have endeavored to find some solution of the matter, but they, like us, were not prophets. All our lives we find that our preconceived notions are very apt to be found wanting when the time and circumstance arrive when we are called

upon to use them; therefore, we think it is wise to fix a periodical remedy by the people electing a constitutional convention to look after exigencies that will arise from time to time. It may be asked in all candor why we wish to create an Exchequer with co-ordinate powers, instead of creating a commission who shall from time to time report to the Congress, so that that body could take it up and debate it in all its bearings before it was enacted into law. The answers that could be given for not so doing would enlarge this work beyond the bounds we had intended to go. However, it is a thought that will suggest itself to many patriotic men, and should receive due consideration.

First of all, a commission is always more or less a political body without power to act further than report to a superior body. Their term of office ends when they report; they are not held responsible for their report; their existence is transitory and irresponsible, and even if made permanent as a commission, could not and would not be held in that respect that a co-ordinate branch of the government would be. They would not have that incentive to dis-

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criminate as acutely as a responsible body; they would not be required to abstain from all commercial life in any of its forms, nor divorce this body from all politics—they are numerous enough to give due consideration to all the business of the nation and not so many that they could not act promptly. The trinity idea of government has never given the satisfaction we have a right to expect neither in the states nor the general government, and while human nature is imperfect it never will. The Congress is a large body, and, unfortunately, a dependent body; it is not a business body, but an affirmative and negative body that can never work in harmony—except in times of great exigency or dire calamity. Each member is controlled to a greater or less extent by a few of his constituents, so they are not free to act in accordance with their judgment. No, this religious trinity idea must admit a fourth co-ordinate body. Many men are living who can remember that the business of the country was stagnated by a change in our national administration. Untried men always affect the business of the country to our detriment. Then, why not give constitutional direction to busi-

ness and create a business body to execute it—the Exchequer?

As we proceed, the powers proposed to be delegated to the Exchequer will be more fully noted.

All municipalities, semi-public and private corporations, should receive their powers and be under the supervision of the Exchequer (1) because to this body should be delegated the power of equalizing the proceeds of capital and labor, (2) because twenty-one-year terms give the members thereof a better insight to the wants and necessities of the people than could be expected of those who were elected for a shorter term of office, and, (3) because they would have revisionary powers that could be exercised at once, etc., etc. Municipal corporations should be classified and defined by the exchequer by a general set of rules, so that all municipalities of the same class would be uniform, so that a citizen going from one to reside in another would find no great difference in the ordinances. It is presumed that if the councils of municipalities expected that their acts were to be supervised by a national body, they would be more cautious as to what they enacted, and

more vigilant in seeing those acts more faithfully executed than has been the case heretofore, and would, no doubt, be more economical in the spending of their revenues.

The Exchequer should set the salaries of all officers and employes of cities, towns and villages, as well as those of township and counties, and they should be uniform in each class.

The scandal that has been unearthed from time to time by spasmodic upheavals of the public—leaving out of the account the many that have never been brought to light—calls for radical changes in municipal governments to the end that they be conducted on the principles of justice for the citizens and not for the “grafter and ward heeler.” There is nothing in municipal life that should make it impossible to have citizens governed by justice and equity so that all could feel secure in life and property no more than that of rural denizens. Semi-public corporations are of two classes, being those which transport commodities and persons and those which confine themselves to the transportation of persons only. The former is of national consideration, while the latter is local in its character and as yet has been

found only economic in more or less densely populated districts; hence, for the present they are in the embryo state and, not of the general importance of the former. The steam railroads, steamboats—when run in connection with steam railroads—telegraph, telephone and express business, stock yards and warehouses, should be merged into one corporation and, as it would be a quasi-public corporation, the people should elect one-half of the directorate. It should be organized upon a semi-military basis and all the employes should be enlisted for a stated time with the privilege of re-enlisting for a subsequent term or terms, if their service had been creditable. The rate of toll should be loaded for the purpose of paying for unforeseen accidents, and this fund or any part thereof remaining, after a stated time and, not being needed for such accidents, should be divided pro rata among all the employes—this would give them a monied interest in the economic management of the properties. Nothing appeals so directly to one's vigilance as a direct and sure interest in the business of his employer, as a monied interest beyond that of his daily pay. Not only does it appeal to one's

selfishness but it infuses a watchfulness on the part of self and co-employees to the betterment of the service for the common carrier as well as for the general public's safety. The rate of toll should be equal to all shippers and should be rated by the distance plus the handling and switching charges. Where shippers and consignees handle the consignment the handling should not be charged in the bill of lading. It is evident to any practical person that it is worth more in proportion to take a single car of freight to a way station and switch it out of the train than to set in a whole train, hence it is reasonable to charge for switching at the rate as compared with the service performed.

The salaries of all officers and directors should be fixed by the Exchequer and they—the Exchequer—should classify the employees and also define the maximum and minimum wage for each class, having in view the time of service as well as kind of employment. Convenient stations for the handling—receiving and discharging—of freight should be insisted upon where bills of lading can be had and freight charges paid. At the present time all large cities are inadequately supplied with

these stations, so that patrons of railroads are put to great inconvenience and unnecessary expense in this regard. A radical change should be effected immediately.

The reason assigned for wanting the telegraph and telephone services merged into the railroad business is so that one set of officers could more economically conduct the business, and that at present it is impractical to operate a railroad without the use of these modern appliances. Perhaps the public would get better and more satisfactory service than at present. Again, these properties having proven so convenient and useful and indispensable to the common carrier and the business interest of the nation, it is concluded that they should be conducted on as economic principles as possible and finally be the property of the nation. The rate of toll should be such as to give a sum sufficient to retire all cost of the properties in fifty years and pay $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent dividend, payable quarterly, on the real value of these several properties, as determined by the engineer corps of the Army and pay for destruction and accidents fund—in fine, surrender to the government the entire properties fully paid for, so

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it could commence and carry on the common carrier business at a minimum cost to the public, at the expiration of fifty years.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP OF RAILROADS, ETC.

Some honestly think that the nation should immediately acquire title to the railroads and operate them, and that thereby could conserve the interests of the people better than to wait any number of years to do so. But it is doubted if those immediate advocates take into consideration the vastness of the undertaking or the difficulty at present of operating them economically. Individuals and corporations have long since found that all business to be successful, must be shorn of politics; therefore, in inaugurating any economic enterprise which must of necessity partake, at the present time, of more or less a political aspect, caution at least would suggest giving time to devise a system that would not be so open to criticism. When we consider the official scandal that is being unearthed in high and low officialdom at the

present time, it behooves us to consider well any radical change of such vital import.

By electing one-half of the directorate of common carriers from among the people, we have taken as radical an advance as prudence could ask for, especially when we consider that in a half century the nation will be able to have grown up and become familiarized with the business. Various other reasons for deferring present ownership will suggest themselves to a thoughtful public without further enumeration. Some over-solicitous persons may feel a repugnance in granting power to enlist the employes under a semi-military form of employment, but if they consider the vital importance the railroad business bears to the very life of a majority of our citizens, they will see the necessity warrants extraordinary precaution to the end that no self-appointed enthusiast nor inimical organization could paralyze these arteries of commercial life. All with sane minds must admit that so long as the peoples of the earth in their political subdivisions maintain a military organization, those of a republic must do likewise to insure respect and to act when our lives or property

are in danger. These are conditions over which we have but a small control, and therefore it behooves us to always be ready to assert our manhood and protect our nation. We might say that our lives and national honor are protected by the army and navy and not be far from the truth nor open to criticism. Now, if this is the case, are we not justified in demanding that those who transport the necessities of life as well as those of comfort, be held to perform that duty by a lenient military rule? Surely the transportation of commodities and that of persons should be safeguarded with all the care possible to the end that as few inconveniences and risks to limb and life as the ingenuity of man can devise, and, above all, we should be safeguarded from internal turmoil or outside machinations of a sinister character as far as possible. If one set of officers had control of all carriers of commodities, intelligence, and persons as is contemplated, they could and would minimize the expense of conducting the business. All communities have an excrescence that vegetates and exudates upon the body politic a discordant and virulent exhalation of the most fetid poison if their advice and coun-

sel has not been first asked and obtained, before any departure from beaten paths are suggested, and they are so filled with self-esteem and pomposity that they make the atmosphere blue with their denunciations and inopportune criticism, but their brain is so microscopical and their automatic tongue vibrations are so illogical that the practical public seldom gives ear or heed to their vituperations. They are of that semi-insane class from which hobos are recruited, and yet with their brass always brightly burnished they can be seen and heard at all gatherings. Some of these creatures can sing a catchy ditty, while others are given to an over-abundance of gab, so that the thoughtless part of the gathering will tolerate their audacity and sometimes cheer their illogical vampings. Of course, the foregoing class are not presumed to be affected by the reading of anything that may be contained in this book, for they are naturally incapacitated for serious reflection on any subject, much less upon one of the magnitude of that under discussion. The only reason they have been referred to is because they can be found in all avocations of

life, hence the reader's attention is called to them in advance.

BANKING AND INSURANCE.

The nation should do all the banking business, with power to have branches in foreign countries where we have treaty relations that would permit of its doing so. In sparsely settled districts and villages the repositories should be an adjunct of the Post Office so that all citizens could have equal facilities to deposit funds. The officers of each repository should be elected by the depositors, and they be held as security to the nation for the officers' faithful performance of their duties. The depositors would be extremely careful who received his or her vote if they knew, in advance, that they were going on the candidate's bond to secure the nation from any loss from any cause by the party they were voting for. Of course, this need not be carried to extremes, such as loss by fire, burglary, or those termed "acts of God." The whole business should be under the management of the Exchequer, and, it is presumed, that that body would issue such

stringent rules for the guidance of all repositories and the ever-expecting appearance of an authorized auditor from the Exchequer that loss by misfeasance or malfeasance or embezzlement in office would rarely occur. Photography has become so universal and cheap that each depositor could have his or her picture taken on a part of his or her bank book so he or she could be identified and check cashed or honored at any repository, which would be a great convenience over present methods. After a reasonable time no person or corporation should have a right to collect at law or in equity for any debt where cash was the consideration. This would soon shut out the money sharks. The government should allow 2 per cent on all balances and charge 5 per cent on all loans. It may be urged that this would curtail a natural right that all are presumed to be endowed with, but we answer no more so than that of the Post Office business which is handled exclusively by the nation. Of course, it would be prudent to take over the assets and assume the liabilities of those monied institutions as they might be found to exist at the time the Government assumed the duties of custodian, so

there need be no run on those institutions at the time of the change. The nation should insure property of all kinds from loss by whatever method—damaged or destroyed—that may happen, and should assess the loss upon other property—except that of design or gross negligence in the owner and natural deterioration. To conceive of a civilized nation without property, either in individual hands, corporate or in communal condition, is beyond natural comprehension. So we realize property to be a necessity and as such a part of a nation, and that to an extent any loss or damage property may receive is a national loss and therefore should be borne in a major part by the nation. Nearly all of our people insure their property, and in doing so disclose the full value of the same to the insurance agent. Now, if the government did all the insurance it could refer to its insurance books to find out what the party or parties should be taxed for local and national purposes, with a reasonable assurance that the taxation would be just and equitable. One thing can be said against this paternal idea and that is that the government could not be reimbursed instantly for any outlay in this department, but

that would be mitigated in a measure by the activity superinduced by reimbursing the party who sustained the loss. For a time dishonest parties would, no doubt, take this method to sell out, but ere long this would become so hazardous that those losses would rarely occur. Take, for instance, the farming business, as it is one of the most precarious, would it not be better for those who this year have full crops to pay a reasonable amount to those who have sustained a partial or total failure, so that they may receive some compensation for their time and labor, so that they in turn could be reimbursed when they had a like failure.

Private insurance companies are hedged about with too many technicalities for practical purposes to make one feel that security one would like, but when a nation takes hold a simple and inexpensive form could embody rules and regulations that could be understood by all classes. Some may contend that this is encroaching upon socialism and therefore should not be considered for fear of encouraging socialism. To those timid people it is only necessary to say that good things never hurt, no matter from whence they come, and it is

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always wise to absorb them without being too particular as to their source. One of the reasons that socialism does not make a greater impression at the present time upon our people is that between our present development and their ideal there is an interim that they have never bridged. No doubt the socialist is honest in his belief, but under present conditions he is impractical. The anarchist may be honest in decrying against all law, but he is impractical. Nature is governed by law, and man with all his genius is unwise to think that he can be governed without law. His sole aim should be to make the law a help to civilization rather than a hindrance. But we may be asked if the nation goes into the insurance business upon this grand scale, what will become of the insurance companies now in existence. In answer we will say (1) that of the help they employ the nation could use the experts; (2) that their capital could be employed in other useful ways; (3) that their printed matter could be disposed of to the rag merchant, and that their other personal property would no doubt find sale at some price, and, as for their stockholders they

would find they could soon read of fire losses without losing their nerves.

At the present time, and under the present mode of fire-underwriting, no insurance company in operation could successfully meet a succession of large losses such as that of the destruction by fire of large cities, but if the nation were doing the business and could spread the losses upon all the property of the whole nation, there is no question but that all losses would be paid promptly. The cost of doing the business could be done for 10 per cent of the present mode of procuring the risks. The nation could make and enforce rules for the construction of buildings, etc., that would lessen losses that companies cannot for obvious reasons insist upon, and thereby lessen the losses.

TERMS OF OFFICERS, ETC.

The Exchequer should every three months change chairmen and the same for that allotted time should be a member of the Cabinet with the right to a seat in the same. They should rotate in holding the chairmanship, so in the

course of time each member would have at some time been the chairman. This rotating would go a long way toward unifying the body and keep jealousies from existing among them, and keep politics out of their administration. The Constitution should provide for electing all officers by a direct ballot and it should also provide how an officer could be voted out of office before his or her elected time has expired by a three-fifths vote of the electors. Nothing would be more apt to keep an officer in a strict line of duty than the knowledge that his or her constituents could determine his or her tenure of office at their pleasure, nor would a court dare to interfere to continue an officer in office after the people had voted the officer out. This should extend to all officers except those of the Exchequer. The President, Vice President and Senators should be elected for seven years. Presidents should not be eligible for more than one term and should thereafter be life Senators. The reason for this innovation is that as the presidents, as such, gain knowledge by virtue of their position that would be of vast service to the nation in more ways than one, the nation has an inherent right to their

services through life. We have bestowed upon such all the honors we possess and in return should receive the reward for so doing of a lifetime. None would seek a re-election because that would be impossible and each would strive to make their administration contrast favorably with that of former presidents and they would no doubt prove valuable Nestors to the Senate. It may be said the nation should not deprive itself of the right to elect any person as often as the majority might see fit or desired to do so. In answer we will say that after one is elected to the exalted office of president that partyism should cease and patriotism of a national character begin. The history of the presidents of the United States will show that many of them did or left undone many things for the purpose of being re-elected to a second term, so it is deemed best to give those incumbents in the start to understand that it is one term and out. However, this matter is of minor interest, and has only been suggested as an improvement on our present mode of treating our presidents.

The representatives should be elected every three and a half years, and at that time and

place one-fourth of the Senators should be elected for seven years. The present mode of electing the Congress keeps it in a constant turmoil so that the nation does not get that high order of service it would if they were elected for a longer term. The pay of those national officers should be ample so that the nation could command the services of the brightest minds we possess. It is presumed that when we abolish the appointive privilege that now exists, and deny that right to be reinstated, we will find that less persons can do the necessary legislation, for their time would not be taken up in seeking office for their constituents nor will the congressman be in constant dread that some of those who have been supplied with places of trust might go wrong. Twenty senators and twice that number of representatives, elected at large on the cumulative plan, should be a sufficiency. The person who received the greatest number of votes should be the pro tem president of the Senate and House of Representatives respectively. This mode would do away with the wrangles that are often seen in those bodies. There is a great amount of time often taken up in wrangling over the presiding

officer which could be saved by the people electing the presiding officer, and, as it is the people's time and money they are wasting, they—the people—have a right to say who shall hold that office. This, of course, should only have reference to the Congress.

MUNICIPALITIES.

We now come to municipalities. First, we have the township as the unit of our nation's political sub-division and, while in some localities they are called parishes, it makes little difference, for their rights and duties are substantially the same and will be treated as such.

Local self-government is not inconsistent in a land of freedom, but even here there should be metes and bounds, and these should emanate from the Exchequer. The officers of townships, villages, towns and cities, as well as counties, should be under the same close scrutiny as the officers of Congress, so that the electors could exercise a vigilance over them, and if they—the officers—are found wanting the electors could terminate their official existence and elect another or others in their stead. We create too

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many offices and support too many officers for the amount of service we receive from them. All civil officers should be elected from among that class of citizens whose parents were natural born citizens of North America, and none other—except in cases where no such citizens reside in the municipality who could successfully pass an examination proving their qualifications to hold said office. Whenever any village, town or city becomes as large as the township, then the township municipality should cease and the other govern. As far as possible all direct taxes should be expended for the benefit of the property from whence it came, especially of realty. Assessors never fail to put a round valuation upon unimproved real estate for taxation purposes, but the spending board seldom considers it necessary to expend the taxes thus procured for the benefit of the property from whence it came. This is not equitable and should be corrected. However, when our local officers find that a national officer is likely to order a more equitable expenditure than has been done in the past, there is likely to be a revolution in former methods for the better in the future. The people should define

that section of the national constitution which makes forever binding the validity of contracts legally entered into, by giving it metes and bounds. Municipalities should not be permitted to irrevocably bind future generations to an individual or corporation so that they could not abrogate the same when it would inure to the advantage of the citizens of the municipality. Public utilities grow into the life of urban existence to that extent that they should be obtained by the citizen at a minimum cost. No value should ever be considered as emanating from a charter or franchise, for these intangible grants have been procured by fraud if they have cost anything to the grantee. Perhaps it may be necessary for new municipalities to offer capital inducements to inaugurate a semi-public utility, or for old ones who have sustained some unforeseen calamity to do so, but that should not be irrevocable when municipal conditions have changed so that less expensive modes could be inaugurated. It is one of the fundamental duties of all nations and municipalities to transport persons and get commodities from the producer to the consumer at as small a cost as possible, and, this funda-

mental principle should supersede all other considerations in the material life of the body politic. But, say the members of the company, "we furnished the capital to make the utility possible, why should not we enjoy our dividends in peace?" Yes, we grant you furnished the capital and that it was yours, and that you had a right to invest it in said utility or not as you saw fit, but you should admit that you have been reaping an annual reward, and we do not wish to deprive you of your principal outlay for tangible property, but you must admit that we have secured that capital to you, for if you had been as strong as a Samson you could not have secured your private capital without our assistance. It is the tranquillity of the community which we produce that gives you and your capital security. Remember this, that the state grants to no one absolute and indefeasible ownership of any kind of property, and that it has not for long, long ages. The state has an inherent right to tax your property for public uses, and if a time should come and that dire necessity should arise in which the state needed your capital it would take it all. It is the tranquillity and prosper-

ity of the masses that makes your capital valuable and safe, or at all secure; therefore, think not that you are being used unfairly.

EDUCATION.

The Exchequer should contain an educational branch and it should have sole control of the education of minors. No sectarianism or any dogmas of any sect should be taught in any of the national schools. The arts and sciences alone should be taught to minors, and of that number who disclose extraordinary aptitude in mastering any useful knowledge, they should be permitted—at their election—to continue under the tutorage of the nation after majority free of cost to them. When we as a people acknowledge that it is better for the rising generation to be a ward of the nation as is now recognized by the courts, the masses will have advanced in civilization far beyond the present benighted times. The courts for a long time have taken cognizance of the minor, and while it is true that it recognizes the right of the parent to have the direction of the child during minority, the courts have ever been ready to

interfere in the child's behalf when to do so is for the minor's interest or the state's protection. So you see the principle is old and well founded and in declaring that the nation should have the exclusive right to educate its minors is merely amplifying an old and venerated principle and prerogative of the state. The germ—the minor—is the unit from which the political body must be composed in the future and upon which the state must depend for future existence, hence, it is self-evident that the nation has an inherent and indefeasible right to so culture that germ that the nation may hope to reach a higher plane in national existence in the future. The life of an individual is precarious and uncertain as to time, but that of a nation founded upon the fundamental principle of right is for all time. We keep dropping back to the dust of the earth and are soon forgotten, but the nation lives on, and there can be given no logical reason why it should not do all in its power to increase its possibilities for a higher idealism. Superstition may for a time clog the progress of a semi-civilized people in their national life, but as they gradually unfold and become cosmopoli-

tan, the light of knowledge will soon dispel the gloom and let in the rays so that man to man will be a constant brother. Among those who have, through their progenitors, been inhabitants of North America and enjoyed the benefits of our free school systems this idea will easily find a second, but perhaps among many galvanized citizens the idea will be found repugnant, and for that reason, if for no other, the education of minors should be under a non-political and non-sectarian body. Our object should be to do the best we can for our own people and in the most direct way, for economy's sake if no other. The young have plastic brains, and if their minds and bodies were properly and systematically looked after during minority, few, indeed, would become other than useful citizens. Much criminality that now disturbs society would cease to exist if the youth were to grow up under the tutorage of those only who had the proper knowledge of the arts and sciences and especially a natural aptitude for imparting the same to the pupil. Nature is very prolific and kind to the human species and gives us great numbers of people endowed naturally with the various kinds of

gifts which enables us to always find many persons capable of filling the multitudinous positions that civilization demands, and of those who naturally have the gift to interest and impart knowledge to the young she is not wanting, hence none others should be employed than those who prove they possess this gift. If those who persistently recommend persons as teachers could realize that it is not enough that the persons recommended have the learning necessary, but that they should have the natural gift to impart it to the pupil, they would be more careful in their recommendations and less fervent in their solicitations. It is not right to the youth to give any consideration to the necessities of the applicant in hiring a teacher, but solely to their entire fitness to impart knowledge to others. The young prefer the association of those of their own age to a marked degree, and yet there are adults who can easily gain the confidence of the young so that they can ever be welcome to their society. Now, if the educational bureau would engage those peculiar persons to associate with the young during their vacation, recreation-hours, they would no doubt do much to interest the youth in use-

ful thoughts and healthful occupation of their time, and there is a probability that they through the children could be of great service to the police force in giving them tips as to the location of criminals and where they store their plunder. Of course, this could not be expected to apply in any other than densely populated districts, and yet those so gifted could, as occasion required, be sent into sparsely populated districts when officers are hunting for fleeing robbers, murderers and absconders, to great advantage, for all detectives soon learn that the children are the shrewdest observers of strangers and unusual circumstances. Schoolhouses are paid for by the adult population and they should have the use of the buildings for lectures, debates and such other gatherings as they may desire as a matter of course when not in use for school purposes. On this neutral ground all citizens would feel at home, knowing that all had a direct interest in the building and its preservation. The nation should conduct colleges and universities in convenient localities, and if by so doing those endowed eleemosynary institutions should suffer for want of patronage they should escheat to the nation

with all their endowments, no matter what provision the grantor attached to the bequest. It is presumed that the endower had in view the advancement of general intelligence when the trust was created, therefore no violence could be charged, for the trust would be carried out in a more scientific manner and on a higher plane than the donor had anticipated.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Exchequer should have a medical department which should ramify our whole country—the island dependencies as well—in which medical colleges should be maintained where all schools of medical practice should be taught to pupils. While the colleges should be under the jurisdiction of the Exchequer, the medical graduates should have the sole right to elect the faculty for the colleges. The faculty should hold their office until the medical fraternity can supersede it with a better faculty. These colleges should be supplied with adequate buildings, etc., and ample funds.

The saving and prolonging of human life will interest all our people and should be safe-

guarded by every power of the nation. No human being should be deprived of medical aid in time of need. Sooner or later we all have need—either directly or indirectly—for the service of a physician and if we are unable on account of financial ability to pay for the same, the nation should step in and pay for the service rendered and this without hunting up some doctor who is specially elected to serve such unfortunates. None should be denied the best services obtainable. Through these scientists the Exchequer should acquire the plants for the manufacture of all intoxicants and drugs, their importation and exportation, and they should have the sole right to retail the same. This would soon put a stop to drunkenness and minimize poison by drugs. Our lives are too dear to us to be forever jeopardized by the thoughtless or the charlatan, and it is as much the bounden duty of the nation to protect us from the inexperienced and quack as to protect us from a foreign foe. This plan will meet the approbation of the miser as well as the spendthrift; of the conservative as well as the radical; of the ignorant as well as the educated, because it appeals to our selfishness be

we rich or poor, educated or ignorant. Who knows how soon his life may depend on the prompt attendance of a physician? Of that number who take a medical course not all of them would make successful practitioners, so by relegating them to pharmacy their education could be utilized in the drug stores and intoxicant depots to their own benefit and to society's advantage and protection. If we thought it necessary to elaborate on this subject, the theme is grand enough to write volumes of entertaining matter, but it is firmly believed that no sane person will question the advisability of our position.

LANGUAGE.

Something should be done to compress the English language into some more compact form or in a few generations it will take a lifetime for one to become familiarized with the hundreds of thousands of words a lexicon would contain; in fact, that work is too large now. It does appear that a more simple language could be invented to take the place of ours, which would soon be adopted by the people of all civilized nations. At the present time one

has to be conversant with a large vocabulary to be able to hold any paying position of trust, and in many cases it is found impossible to find those whose education is sufficient in that abundance one would wish. Genius has and is developing new and useful improvements in all other branches of science that immediately become necessities. Why can't it open this field? The Exchequer should take up this subject and see what could be done. True, some attempts have been made to introduce a universal vocabulary, but thus far it has made but little progress. It is exceedingly doubtful if any one person will be found capable of suggesting any system that would be adopted by all nations but if those who have the natural gift and the acquired erudition were to be selected by all the nations and assembled in convention it is highly probable that they could do much to advance this branch of science—we should make the effort. It might be urged that this would render our education worthless if we introduced any new characters to represent ideas, things and sounds. No doubt only the school children would be required to master the new language in the acquiring of

knowledge in their schools, while as their parents would use their national language in their intercourse in the family the children would not be called upon to memorize more than any foreign children do who are brought up in a country using a foreign tongue to that of their parents' language.

The writer is fully persuaded that if such a language were once introduced among civilized nations it would do more to elevate the masses to a higher plane of civilization than any one act that could be done, as it would make it possible for citizens of different nations to freely communicate ideas.

CO-PARTNERSHIP AND PRIVATE CORPORATIONS.

The former is a contract entered into by two or more individuals, either by parol or in writing for a general or specific purpose, and in law makes all the partners security for any loss that may be incurred on account of the firm to other parties; while the latter is an association created by law and defined by statute and the liabilities are thereby prescribed,

defined and limited. The latter is fast doing away with the former because of the limit of liability and its durability and convenience. In the former the agreement generally recites the duties of each partner, but in neither form of consolidation has there been taken into consideration the employes. Few of either exist where partners or incorporators alone do the business or labor of the company or association without extraneous employment; therefore, both of these forms of combination should be subject to legislation and should be under the Exchequer for the reason that it is a non-political body and could have a continuous supervision over them. If the constitution should provide that where it takes two or more persons to create, produce, operate or construct any useful thing or commodity that after paying a reasonable dividend—defined by the Exchequer—for the capital employed in the enterprise and the wage scale the residue should be divided pro rata between all those who produced the same, there need not be any fear by the public of any trust or combination whatsoever, for the reason this plan would so scatter the surplus that it would not be felt by the

general public. We hear much from the thoughtless of a surplus of labor and this is given by the selfish as a reason for a reduction in the price of labor. Yes, they say that supply and demand must govern labor and its wages the same as those of commodities. Probably, no more fallacious idiosyncrasy ever took possession of the mind than this hallucination. It is as foreign to the facts as it is possible for the mind of man to diverge and be sane. It is said that nothing is lost in nature, but that all evolves for the continuity of the solar system, but where in all space can be found a fit place for one so narrowminded? There is not a sane business man on the globe we inhabit but knows that if each person received five dollars for each working day in the year, that times and business would be better than they ever have been. For a manufacturer to declare that there has been overproduction, is to indite his own sagacity and forethought. Few, indeed, of any commodities are produced that the public would not absorb if their industry and its rewards were capable or enabled them to do so. If the head of any enterprise were to neglect to anticipate the probable demand for his prod-

uct, he would be wanting in business capacity and sagacity to an alarming extent. Emigration should increase a demand for goods equal to the necessities of the emigrant. Emigration, aside from its low intelligence, should inure to the prosperity of a country to the extent of the want for those commodities the emigrant consumes and cause an activity above the normal to that extent, and would if the cupidity and selfishness of the cringing employer did not take advantage of the emigrant's ignorance and necessities to get his services for less than they should be. The poor fool of an employer thus induces hard times as a reward for his parsimony. Some call such procedure business, and gloat over their ill-gotten gain, while in fact it is the cunning device of a thief to rob the emigrant of what rightly belongs to him and his family. Don't think that we have no respect for those who furnish employment to others, for we have the most profound respect for those human giants but we cannot condone thievery from any, much less from a defenseless emigrant. It will not lessen our contempt for such an one by the plea that the emigrant is receiving a greater reward for his labor than

he could have gotten in the land of his nativity. No, he is here by our permission, under the protection of free men and should receive the hospitality of an honorable people. Yes, should be safeguarded and encouraged to emulate the best of us.

Perhaps it would be as well to give an illustration of the results of declaring the market overstocked with labor. In a certain locality a few men who were the authors of their own fortune engaged individually in a given line of business and paid their employes good wages and all went well, they made money and their employes were happy, but the news went abroad and soon there were more men than those parties could employ. About this time there came on the arena a shrewd, miserly man who quietly mastered the ways of those humane employers, and as he possessed capital and had unlimited credit he set up in the business and as he found it easy to employ all the help he wanted, he set in at a lower scale of wages than those others had been paying and soon those parties of the first part found out that this interloper was displacing their commodities by those of his own to their customers. Now, the

question which confronted them was what to do—to continue as before would insure bankruptcy, so they had to reduce their scale of wages, which, of course, soured the minds of their employes and a strike ensued. Who was responsible for the strike? The principle involved in the foregoing is not new. It is employed in many avocations and is and has been always resorted to for selfish motives only. Would it not be better to make a unit for labor or employment of a rigid character by a constitutional amendment so we would know that it could not be tampered with, than to go on in this haphazard way of doing business for that unit, and the other guarantee of an interest in the profits would insure the employes immunity from selfish employers and the employer tranquillity. This would do more to keep business in a normal condition than any one thing we can think of. As the years roll round the consolidation of business enterprises continue to increase more and more, men seek employment in preference to starting some new enterprise until it appears as though the self-reliance that once obtained to a marked degree in this country is fast dying out. Mark the anomaly,

those same persons who seek employment so assiduously, want to dictate to the employer just how his business shall be conducted. The contractor cannot make a specific contract as to time or amount, because of the uncertainty as to the price of labor or commodities before the contract can be completed, while he who is to foot the bills must be a millionaire to venture into the construction. This is chaos—imbecile chaos at that! Look at it from any point of view and the whole transaction is a game of chance from the garbage haulers to the builders of sky-scrapers. Yes, it permeates our whole complex economic system and what is the worst feature of the gloomy picture is that it will never be any better until we get rid of our complex system of state legislation. But says one, the unit idea will not do because no two persons will produce the same amount of results in a given time.

We must go deeper into this matter to convince those honest skeptics. Society is created to protect each member thereof, and in a free country, each is a component part of the whole. Now, that society acts on each individual as of equal import in its construction

and thereby forms a unit—the individual—which said unit is society's life and, therefore, society has the inherent right to protect each unit in its contact with other units. Society in its intercourse with other societies will of course be subject to the survival of the fittest, but the same law will not apply to society in its individual capacity because the unit—man—represents the very life of society, and that society which treats, protects and defends each of its units impartially will survive that society that neglects them or any part of them. The individual may or may not be a giant in frame or intellect, or he may or may not be a dwarf in frame or only accountable in intellect, and yet either of them is a unit to be protected by society—the state. When we think of the advancements genius has elevated the human race to, and view the possibilities to which they are ever unfolding to our gaze, we wonder why man must work from “early dawn to dewy eve” to sustain life—true, not all have to struggle so, but far too many do. If a unity of action is once established it will be found that man need not labor more than what is good for his bodily health to enjoy more hap-

piness than has ever been enjoyed—except to the favored few on this terrestrial globe. The germ of progress that is ever unfolding new and useful things for man's use or amusement comes from genius, and although they receive less consideration than any other class from the general public, they keep right on in their good work. Should we not devise means whereby they should be insured a reward that could not be filched from them?

All private corporations should receive their charter from the Exchequer, which body should issue their stock at par value—no watered stock should be permitted under any circumstance. Intrinsic value should be held by the company for every share of stock issued. The employes should elect a portion of the directorate of all associations and they should be employes of the company. This would infuse into the minds of all those who labored for or held stock a mutual interest in the economic management of the association. In some associations there should be a per cent annually marked off on account of deterioration of the plant, and charged to expense account. The idea is to give back to the stockholder his orig-

inal capital when the association is dissolved, unimpaired after first paying an annual reasonable dividend. Under such safeguards idiots only would inaugurate a strike. Capital would be secure and would be a servant of great good for the prosperity of the nation. Capital is created by law to subserve the wants of society and not to enslave the members thereof.

TRUSTS.

The formation of trusts, in some form, comes to us from mediaeval times, and while a history of them might be entertaining, we need not go into their origin. Suffice it to say, that they, when properly conducted, are susceptible of being a means of great benefit to man. When they are formed and conducted legitimately they can become an economic help of vast good to all parties in interest and the public in general. To do so, however, they should be under the supervision of the Exchequer from whence their powers should be derived. Let the reader consider that if trusts had not been found to subserve the interests of society they would long since have dropped out of use. It is the dema-

gogue who decries trusts because some have been conducted dishonestly, and in some cases been used as engines of oppression. We can retain trusts and combinations and get all the good possible out of them by simply guarding their operations by a constitutional provision that will compel an honest administration of the fiduciary. Many different lines of business scattered over our vast domain could combine into a trust that could handle their products and deliver them to the consumer or local vendor and thereby save to the consumer a considerable amount in the cost of the articles if it was fairly and economically conducted. Unnecessary expense in getting articles of consumption to the consumer is waste of the most flagrant character. When one person can fairly represent the interest of several parties it is silly to employ more persons. The time and expense of all traveling representatives must be paid by the consumer, and if by forming a trust the producers can create and deliver to the consumer a given commodity for less money then it is his duty to do so, by trust if necessary. The consumer could thereby be able to consume more products and, therefore, be more service-

able to the producing class. If the editorial writers would discuss ways and means whereby trusts could not be conducted on dishonest methods, they would increase their circulation and receive more encomiums from a thinking public. Perhaps when the owners of the press find that the people at large have taken this and other economic subjects up with a determination to better our condition in a peaceable way they may be induced to let their editorial writers handle the subjects in scientific and logical form. Perhaps the editorial writers of this country are as brainy a set of writers as any to be found in the world, and if they are, let them handle the subject in all its bearings; it will not take long for them to evolve a solution of the question at issue to the credit of the nation and the happiness and satisfaction of the people. To say that this brainy class has not given these subjects serious thought and at times elucidation, would be wrong for ever and anon they sound the timbrel of warning, but the controllers of their policies have held so tight a rein on their writings that nothing tangible has been produced. It is to be hoped the owners of the press will soon see the

error of their conservatism and let a more radical voice belch forth from the cannons of the press. The letters of approbation they would soon receive from the thoughtful commending their patriotic course, would soon convince them that they had struck the sympathetic and patriotic breasts of the nation. What nobler work can be performed than the uplifting of one's country? What grander embellishment could the pages of the press display than that of a patriotic rivalry in striving to outstrip each other for the amelioration of the condition of the whole people of North America? None. Trusts are like all other combinations, creatures of law and hence subject to legislation as of right. They should be defined and limited by the Exchequer and held to a strict account by the same to the end that they subserve the interest of producer and consumer alike. While the Constitution should declare eight hours the limit—except in cases of emergency—for a day's work in each twenty-four-hour-day of brawn or brain, the Exchequer should have the right to diminish said time for the purpose of giving an increased number of persons employ-

ment, if such an exigency should arise without decreasing the daily pay, however.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

The internal improvement of the whole nation should be initiated and carried on under the Exchequer. This should extend to a supervision of municipal improvements as well as national. The scandal that is being brought to light every once and a while where municipal officers have wasted or filched the public funds under the guise of public improvements, should be checked by a drastic hand—none more competent to do so than the Exchequer. The country should be provided with good public highways, as fast as it is practical to make them, and they should be continuous and national in their character. Time might come when the nation found it necessary to use these roads as military conveniences, so the sooner they are put into good condition the better. Farmers are as much entitled to good roads as towns and cities to paved streets. So far as may be practicable, the criminal class should be compelled to perform the work of road-making. It

might prove interesting to make comparison between localities where good roads exist and those of indifferent or no improvements, but we will forego the pleasure of picturing the disparity that exists by only affirming that where they exist the farmers are generally two weeks in advance of those who have no improvement or those of poor quality, which, in short seasons, is of vast importance to them.

Waterways have cost the nation vast sums of money, and if they had been under the control of a body like the one proposed to create—Exchequer—the people would have realized much greater results for the expenditures. A ship canal should connect the great lakes with the Mississippi River as precautionary measures in time of war and for commercial purposes in time of peace. Something should be done toward forming great basins to catch and retain the waters along our great rivers in flood time so they can be controlled and utilized to make them less destructive in time of floods and more serviceable in time of drouth. In certain localities these catch basins could be connected with irrigated lands to aid husbandry. Many contributory rivers could be

cheaply held in check by a succession of dams. Irrigated lands are the surest producers and if the waters were controlled by the nation they could be operated at a minimum cost to the consumer. The nation will, no doubt, soon have commenced to cut a canal through the isthmus to connect the waters for commercial purposes—of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. This should be under the domain of the Exchequer. We have delayed this matter entirely too long. The causes of the procrastination do not sound to our credit nor redound to our statesmanship. This waiting as we have to unite those oceans is too much like those farmers who hitch up their team and then find they are minus a plow; then they hie themselves to the nearest agricultural dealer to buy one although they had had many opportunities to buy before. Now we have great need for a canal, so we, like those farmers who act when dire necessity makes it imperative, we will doubtless act with great energy, and, no doubt, self-laudations. Bosh! If the great captains of industry did not display more energy than our politicians have in thus minimizing the facilities of interchange of commodities we would soon be a nation of

Koreans—perhaps our imperfect and complex system is the greatest cause of our unpreparedness. Be it what it may, we should hasten to correct the evil. If we are to dominate the western continent for the good of the people thereof, it is high time we discarded many of our fossil ideas and procrastinations. Our position in the family of nations is not impregnable, but can easily be made nearly so by using the possibilities that are now presented to us. Some great minds fear the yellow race in *futuro*. Now would be a good time to consider the “yellow peril” as it is termed. Europe is isolated by land distance from any peril but when those sleepy Orientals awake to civilization as Europe has and their ships plow the deep, they may energize their multitudes and become a power of vast resources. Now, while we would not object to their increased commerce, we could not permit them to use the isthmus canal in time of war for fighting engines. The canal should be used for commerce only, but in time of war should be closed to all belligerents—except ourselves. Those Europeans who want the canal to be as free as the open sea should consider this point well

before striving to remove all restrictions to its free use for all classes of vessels. We are the intermediate between these two opposite races of men—the Oriental and the Occidental—and while we as a nation stand in this relation, we should encourage diplomacy rather than increase facilities for belligerency on the part of either party. No, we will not consent to an “open door” to warring nations. They must look to the natural routes for combatting purposes. With the Oriental we will strive to live in peace and sweet concord, while with the Occidental we will be one of them striving to uplift all mankind. By giving the canal in charge of the Exchequer we remove it from the turmoil of internal passion or political demagoguery to a venerable and patriotic body.

The Post Office business should be given over to the Exchequer so it would not be a bone of periodical contention as to who should be nominated and confirmed as Postmaster. This branch of the public service could be put upon a business basis. We grant that a great deal has been done in the last few years by civil service, but this has not entirely divorced the business from the domain of politics as it should

be. There are too many sinecures for favored political friends. It is well enough to have political parties, but when the election is over those who are elected should consider the wants of the whole people and that of the service, and not the pecuniary wants of their individual friends. It is poor business to have politics in it. In a majority of the Post Offices it would be practical to have them and the repositories combined for economical purposes. This would make the service more democratic than it is now because the depositors would elect the responsible head and should be surety to the nation for the acts of the incumbent and the employes. No community could then truthfully say that they were not getting all the rights they were entitled to. This would be fair, honest, and just to all parties in interest. It is one of the cardinal principles of a free people that those who pay the expenses of an officer should dictate who that officer should be, so long as said officer is competent and willing to fill the position, instead of having an officer thrust upon them by outside authority. This plan will no doubt appeal to our Southern communities as a just suggestion and

one by which they can be relieved of great anxiety as to who will be their Postmaster every four years or so. Again, business knows no section when in active operation for it is, when systematically conducted, under inflexible rules, the same in one portion of the country as it is in another; therefore, it would gradually make us more homogeneous and companionable, being a desideratum not to be overlooked by a people wishing to harmonize all the elements that are found in our large domain. There is nothing in this radical change from our present manner of conducting the Post Office business that should detract from our present efficient mode of conducting the business, but rather create a desire to better the service.

PUBLIC LANDS.

All state, county, and municipal lands should of right be vested in the nation without formality of law other than a constitutional section being framed and adopted therefor. All the public lands now held by the nation should forever remain the property of the nation and the constitution should direct that the nation should

not alienate any land owned by the nation or that hereafter might be acquired by it. The time will come when the nation will own all the lands over which its supervision extends; therefore we might as well commence with what land we have left. The Exchequer should have sole control over government lands and property for the use of the nation. It will not be many decades until the people will demand a time limit for private or corporate ownership of lands so we might just as well commence systematizing the management of what the nation has left as to condemn it to get it back.

Those single tax advocates could exert their ingenuity in devising practical ways to make their assertion good—that taxes should come from the land only, or forever give up their panacea for all our troubles. Perhaps if the nation owned all the land and charged only a nominal sum for its use, a great impetus would be imparted to husbandry and a healthier moral atmosphere given to many localities which are now sadly in need of it.

PENSIONS.

That the nation should pension the aged, in-

digent and maimed so they might not be a burden to their relatives, nor be dependent upon the cold hand of charity, is too self-evident to require argument to sustain the assertion. It is only the selfish, heartless few who will decry against so beneficent and humane an obligation. Who has not seen the helpless aged neglected and often despised and treated cruelly when, if they had been monthly receiving a liberal pension from the government, would have been able to command the necessities and comforts their aged condition required? They have fought the battles of life and done their share toward advancing civilization for the young and strong to enjoy, and to deny them a pension of right would do more to prove us ungrateful than any act of omission we can think of. Who does not enjoy seeing the aged surrounded with the comforts of life, and cheered by loving friends, passing with sweet cadence to sleep in mother earth? Oh, tell us not of the millions in dollars it would cost when billions upon billions of happiness would be the reward! All do not age at the same time—with one it may be at forty, while another may go to sixty or even seventy, but

senility or death will sooner or later put in its appearance and we should have some refuge—the nation.

The medical fraternity should pass upon this age matter and the Exchequer should furnish the pension funds. It is presumed that few, indeed, will be found who will not have heart enough to second this suggestion. The rules, regulations and edicts of the Exchequer should have the same interpretation and force before the Judiciary as the acts of the Congress, and the courts should carry into effect their acts—when found constitutional—in the same way it now does the acts of the Congress.

SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES.

The Exchequer should settle all estates. No will should ever be considered in the settlement of estates, for the reason that no decedent can possibly know what the future may be or what changes even he might make if alive at the time of its settlement. Property, wealth, and land are for the living and not for the dead. While we live the state protects our person and property and allows us to use the property

for any lawful purpose that we may desire, but after we are dead the state should not be asked to allow the dead to dictate as to what use or uses property is to be put. This should be enough to ask the state to do. If this idea was carried a little further and decreed that where a party dies having no issue—heir—and left a widow or widower, as the case may be, that the surviving widow or widower should retain a life interest in the estate, and after the death of the survivor that the estate be divided between the heirs at law of the party from whom the estate originated. This would at once do away with commercial marriages. The craze of too many persons to marry for wealth is scandalous and should be discouraged by all lawful and social means rather than encouraging such matches as the law and society now do. Affinity and fitness are thrown to the wind in the mad rush for wealth. It is time to put away the old adage that comes down to us from the time when men captured their wives by the sword that “all is fair in love and war.” The latter in civilized nations has been defined by international law, while the former has been left to prey upon the suscepti-

bilities of the well-to-do. Would it not be well to legally discourage this practice for the common good of society? Millions of the wealth produced in our land have been diverted from its natural and legitimate channel and been carried to Europe for a name. Much of this would return to its original source if our laws were changed in this respect as suggested. Sordid and mercenary motives should be discouraged by every legitimate means to the end that life and happiness would not be prostituted to greed and wealth. When the women have an equal voice in the nation as men have, we think they will find a way to make wedded life more congenial and thereby improve the race, as has been practically demonstrated in the Floral, Vegetable and Animal kingdoms.

Many pages could be written on this branch of our subject, but we think it is just as well to leave it for future consideration. Then, you know, it is not politic to encroach upon a subject that might interfere with the emoluments of so extended a class, as a scientific mode of continuing the race might require, while that class might be induced to aid other reforms that are equally as important.

FOOD ADULTERATION.

Adulterations of food and clothing should be under the Exchequer or rather, they should exercise a supervision in such matters so the public could not be deceived by fraudulent advertisements and representations into buying unwholesome food or worthless clothing, etc., etc. The shameful manner in which the susceptible public is being deceived by unprincipled compounders of foods and beverages should be stopped by the strong hand of the nation before they for selfish gain poison our whole people. They have poisoned our morals to a great extent already. Advertisers should be held to a strict account for what they say in their advertisements. No doubt some writers will find their employment gone and themselves looking for more commendable work than humbugging the public as they have been doing, but we can stand that and live.

TREATIES.

Trading among nations tends to civilize the people of all nations that enter into such barter

and as they become more cosmopolitan and friendly, they are more apt to adjust their differences without going to war, for the business element exerts a great influence upon the political to the end that more and more nations are settling their differences by diplomacy, which is to the credit of those in dispute. We already have treaties with nearly all nations, but they will be found inconsistent as they now exist, if our nation carries out the suggestions we advance, and, therefore, we would want to change them so as to be consistent with the new order of things. For this and other reasons we should change the confirmation of all treaties to that of the Exchequer from that of the Senate, for instance the Exchequer should have charge of emigration, and they would no doubt require a moral and educational fitness on the part of adults as a prerequisite to make emigration possible. The Exchequer should have to some extent the right to say in what part of the republic the emigrant should locate so as to make it possible to in time Americanize him. If emigrants were more equally distributed throughout the nation it would be far better for them and their children and us

too, than the way they do now in flocking in large communities to some given centre. By their unrestrained action and location they transplant little communities among us that correspond to their nativity and there continue their old mode of life. At the present time one need not journey to Europe to see the ways of its people for in any large city in America can be found communities that are fair samples of those countries. If emigrants would scatter out among our people more they would sooner catch the spirit of our people in their phenomenal development. It is true that our social ways are strange to them, but they should be willing to put up with the innovation for the better advantages their children would have in becoming assimilated in the ways of Americanism. No doubt the aged and infirm of their number would turn longing eyes in their reflective moments toward the land of their nativity and, for a moment, sigh because they cannot see the old home where they were born or meet in social union those playmates they once held so dear. Yes, they are human and cannot help thinking of the old homestead; the verdant field; the swelling hills; the lofty

mountains, or rippling brook where they were wont to chase the air bubbles, or perhaps fish in the broad river or watch the incoming tide with its rolling billows on old ocean's shore. Such thoughts are natural to the human mind and we should not chide them for those thoughts or for a wish to again look upon the scene of their childhood. When they are in this mood we should do all we could to make them feel that they, though far from home, are among friends who sympathize with them. Make them feel that they have made no mistake in coming among us to find friends in all their trials and tribulations, for it will do more to elevate them and us than anything we can do. Theoretically man should be free to roam at will the world over and perhaps the day may come when he can, but for the present and while such dissimilar governments rule over us to advance any principle to a higher plane than another, it is necessary to use caution in admitting the people of other climes to citizenship in that government which has taken such a forward move. The vicious of all kingdoms, empires and republics increase in proportion as the class from whence they come are

neglected by the governing power in which they are domiciled. They are the excrescences of all nations and the immediate and pestering element which must be eliminated by scientific propagation before the millennium can be expected to enter into the world's civilization—we cannot be too guarded in keeping this class of emigration out.

CITIZENSHIP.

All aliens should reside in this country twenty-one years before they could be enfranchised. Our minors have to do so, why not aliens? Perhaps then their votes would be considered of more value to them, and the nation could feel a greater security in their using the same with prudence. We are writing on the principle of the majority of those aliens who come to our shores freely granting that some come so fully informed of our status as to be, in some cases, better able to use the ballot with intelligence than many of our native born citizens, but they are so few that the harm that would come from shortening the time of probation should not be considered, no

matter how much we may deplore the necessity of keeping those in the embryo state so long. If we could be assured that all our future emigrant element would be of the latter class, then the precaution suggested would not be necessary, but as we cannot have that assurance we should have a constitutional amendment to meet the case, so that political influences could not negate the will of the people.

SALARIES.

That designing parties might not be able to render the mandates of the Exchequer nugatory, they should have the sole power to declare how many salaried officers a municipality could have or a private corporation could employ and the amount of each officer's monthly pay. When we take into consideration the great number of persons who are equally capable of filling a given official capacity it looks like extravagance to give any one such an enormous amount that to make the enterprise pay the rank and file must be engaged at a pittance and their families made miserable in consequence of the high salaries given to the few.

This is perpetuating the baronical idea of the feudal ages which we are striving to get away from. A nation that will protect, defend and encourage one to live in affluence because perchance that one has been the initiatory of the enterprise and controls its pulsations, and ignore the rights of those persons who make the enterprise possible, is derelict in its duty, to call it by no harsher name. "Man's inhumanity to man causes countless millions to mourn." Then, again, when we consider the fact that of those who are classed among the mediocre of our population in intelligence, it is but little more knowledge the best of us ever gains, it looks like extravagance to pay the responsible head an excessive salary for the same reason—such action is wilful waste which causes woeful want. A nation should make such inequality impossible as to the results of human effort in the useful arts and sciences. No salary should be greater than three hundred dollars per month, and those in rare cases, and no salary should be less than sixty dollars per month for any kind of brain or manual labor, and our tariffs should be so amended that such salaries could be given with-

out importation's interference with the commodities we produce.

Here the croaker will belch forth with all his wrath and declare that we are curtailing the rights the individual has ever enjoyed to forge ahead as far as he could without let or hindrance. That we are holding the mighty and forceful so he cannot plunge ahead with all his energy to a goal far beyond his needs. That it is against the policy of this government to hamper any man's ambition. Cool thy wrath! We have not, nor do we wish to curtail, hold, or hamper any individual, but give him or her free rein to accomplish any and all legal results they may be able to accomplish as individuals. All we ask is that when they have to call to their aid others that we would interfere to protect those aids.

Too many of us will agree with this view theoretically, but when it curtails our own income, we halt and cannot be induced to put the theory into practice, and then, again, others of us who are receiving a greater income fall back and declare that we are trustees appointed by Providence to be our brother's keeper and therefore have need for greater

wealth to the better discharge of the trust God has given us. This last idea is predicated upon "the divine right of kings" to rule over men. It is a kind of self laudation and self sufficiency that finds no warrant in the Declaration of Independence to sustain that selfish deification of ourselves and our supposed necessary wants. For thousands of years religion in some form or another has been trying to get man to be less selfish and more humane towards his kind, but it has never succeeded to that extent we could wish. It appears that all religions inculcate good morals and teach that the way to happiness is to make others happy. Now, we see that it is not want of effort upon the subject matter that the desideratum has not come to be an accomplished fact, but rather that the proper means has never been employed to accomplish the much desired and praiseworthy effect. Is it asking too much to try some other mode of action? If we are sane, then we must admit that religion has been found wanting, for justice has never been obtained for all men through the teachings of religion. Again, we say that as a nation we are honest—that we, as such, treat all nations and individuals fairly—

that we think more of our national honor than we do of our lives and that this "think" applies to all our people. It is the one fundamental or democratic idea that radiates from every subject of the nation. Then why not take that fundamental or democratic idea and clothe it with active power to the end that we accomplish more for man's elevation in a generation than all the religions of earth combined have done so far? We should be wise and not attempt to go too far in this radical move at a single stroke. We think we have indicated a conservative course and would most strenuously urge our people not to attempt to go farther in the initiatory, for too often praiseworthy attempts have proven failures because the promoters did not start with the bud and gradually grow up to the ripe cherry. We have suggested that each decade be ushered in with a constitutional convention for the purpose of amending the constitution if it is found to the interest of our people. This, too, ought to satisfy the radicals and should not scare the conservatives out of their wits. A moral coward is the nearest nothing that nature has ever produced—perhaps he has only been cre-

ated to show the possibilities of nature—a sort of monstrosity. On a salary of sixty dollars a month none need go hungry—as some do now—especially as there is likely to be a dividend coming in the wind up, nor would three hundred dollars a month be apt to make millionaires in superabundance. We think it will be harder to induce those who would naturally be found in the sixty-dollar class to take an active interest in bringing these suggestions into practice than those of the three hundred-dollar class, for the reason that among the former there are so many who are so indolent that they will not exert their dormant energies for fear they might be recognized as useful members of society—dire necessity is the only incentive that will spur them to action, and when it does they will be so lethargic in its performance that small results are hard to get out of them, while those of the latter class appear to be burning with active, vital energy. Those who will not make an effort to better their condition should not find fault with those who do, but it is from that ignorant class we must look to find the grumblers. We, the people, are to blame for a few controlling a majority of the

wealth of the nation. *We are to blame!* But that is no reason we should continue to make millionaires. We have the inherent right to stop making them. Will we do it? That is the question that if answered in the affirmative will do more to advance the happiness of our race than any other thing that could be done.

All this talk about never putting sacrilegious hands on the Federal Constitution is rot—yes, the basest kind of rot. It was drawn for a purpose and to meet an exigency that existed when we were less numerous as a people than some cities are to-day, and not for a steam and electric age wherein so many millions of people live, move, and have their being. We are not a superstitious race of men that can be lured to destruction by the possessors of the utilities and necessities of life because, forsooth, the Constitution was framed by men for whom we all have a profound reverence, as we have for all men of all climes who do the best they can under the times and circumstances under which they are placed. We propose to do as they did with the articles of confederation when they found them no longer suited to the exigencies they found the country

placed in. The articles of confederation served as a stepping stone to the constitution and the formation of states out of the heterogeneous colonies. Now we propose to form a nation out of these homogeneous states because we have found that it is to our interest to do so, the same as it was to the interest of the politicians to supersede the articles of confederation with the constitution—thus you see we have precedence for our action.

So long as the politicians continue to extract the greater ratio of the revenue from the poor and middle class, the wealthy class will tolerate their stewardship and no longer. If the latter class realized the volcanic conditions of our body politic that now really exist they would act before the eruption makes action almost impossible. We are not alarmists, for existing facts within our knowledge are too strenuous to ignore. The conditions now exist and the eruption is liable to belch forth lava from the Atlantic to the Pacific without a moment's warning. What a sight! All our utilities wrecked and possibilities destroyed—wrecked by selfishness. Act before it is too late.

PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS.

The commissioners of patents and the copyright system should be under the management of the Exchequer, and those commissioners should place a value on all claims that are allowed, and the Exchequer should issue fractional stamps to those who wish to manufacture or use the device or improvement on receipt of the cash, and this should take the place of the time limit of the life of the patent. This would insure the patentee sooner or later a reward for his effort and would insure the public against a monopoly. Patentees always put too high a valuation on their production, and the capitalist too low an estimate, but the capitalist never forgets to charge all the market will bear for the finished article. The government uses stamps for several kinds of productions and finds it works well, why not for the creations of patentees as they eke out the most precarious living of any useful element we have among us? The public seldom gets the benefit if the patentee parts with his rights for a pittance. This is not right. Genius is born, and few of them are good financiers and no matter

how useful their conception or how much it may do to elevate our possibilities or minimize our labor, they are seldom the beneficiaries. Their ideas will not let them rest day or night until they have given them form—no eight hours a day for them. They must work out their ideas to gain rest. Then, seeing they are the first to advance every step in progress, why should not the government secure them in a reasonable reward? It would do away with monopoly, for anyone could use the invention by stamping the same, and no one would ever be liable for using the article so stamped. When the amount has been received by the Exchequer that the commissioners valued the device or improvement they could declare by proclamation the same free for the public to use, and would know that the inventor had been paid for his time and labor. This would be just to all parties and would encourage invention wonderfully.

It is a notorious fact that while the inventor will contend that his creation is perfect and practical, that in a large majority of cases it is only in its formative stage and that vast sums of money and labor have to be expended

upon it before it comes to that degree of perfection that should have been obtained before it was offered to the public. Millions upon millions have been wasted in this way and unless a better protective system is devised, the waste of money and time will continue. If the Exchequer would establish experimental stations at convenient centers and place them in the management of scientific and practical instructors where inventors could go to have their devices perfected free to them—inventors are an impecunious class—the public would soon find it one of the best paying investments they had ever undertaken. This is upon the principle that it is the duty of the nation to protect its citizens in every way possible. That is what a nation is created for. Chemistry should have a department in those experimental stations.

Copyrights should also be under the supervision of the Exchequer, so that justice would be meted out to the author and the public alike. It is the croaker and fossil; the pessimist and the grumbler; the shark and the quack only who will call this paternalism. A nation has a right, and it is its duty to protect its citizens in every way possible. These estab-

lishments would do much to encourage genius in all useful departments in developing our resources. Few born with genius have the financial wealth to enable them to create new and useful things as they should be, but if they were backed by the government and its trained scientists, many wonderful inventions would soon become of common use that are now lying dormant in the brain of genius. There ought to be an elastic clause in the constitution giving the Exchequer the right to control, or rather to make rules to govern our material intercourse among ourselves. They should be condensed, yet specifically clear and concrete so they could be taught in our schools. The idea of educating children until majority and then turning them loose to make a living under rules they know nothing about is inconsistent with good judgment, and should not be thought of for a moment. Therefore, from the kindergarten to the highest university class, the law of the land should be taught to both sexes, so it would become as familiar to them as addition or subtraction. True, this would do away with the necessity for so many lawyers and courts, but seeing they are not producers, the

economy of the nation would not suffer on account of their depreciation in numbers. One of the hardest undertakings man has before him in all civilized countries is to move the lawyer or judge to swerve from precedence of bygone days to meet the requirements and wants of the present time. Of course, where precedence is founded upon eternal truth and justice, then they are justified in so doing, but where the evolution of time has changed the conditions of men so that they are dissimilar from those at which the precedence was promulgated, then they should move forward and harmonize their practice and decisions so they will look more rational and consistent to a practical people's understanding.

The foregoing subject can never be handled by the Congress with that degree of perfection that it could by another co-ordinate branch of the public service, for the reason that we as a free and independent people will never give to the Congress long terms that would enable the members to become proficient in the multitudinous subjects which would come before them for solution. We have produced but few great statesmen, and of those we have produced

we have weighted them down with mouthings incompetents, so we could not receive the best results those statesmen would have given us if they had not been thus hampered. Don't you think it is time to introduce a radical change so that we would be more liable to get a higher order of intellect to formulate laws for our government? Reader, it is as much your duty as anyone else's and it is as much your business to strive to bring up the science of law to the plane of other achievements as that of anyone else. Are you willing to make the effort? Will you indorse the idea of forming a new co-ordinate branch of the government by amending the Federal Constitution? You may not agree with all the suggestions that have been advanced or you may be able to advance others of more practical utility. If you think the move will have your co-operation, then don't throw cold water on the effort by saying that it can never come to pass even if you support it. Remember this, that free civilized beings are so near alike that what will interest one is apt to interest two, then four and then eight and so on in the ratio of progression until the whole nation is seriously

considering the subject. We have other subjects to advance and other suggestions to offer when we will again return to a personal appeal to you and your enlightened sympathy.

TESTIMONY.

It appears that the criminal must have a confidante to whom he or she can disclose the fact. It seems to be a fact that somehow the crime will sooner or later find its way to some person other than those who committed the act, and this is not confined to any class of crimes. It may be to a confessor or an attorney, and as they are by law exempt from testifying, the state is at a disadvantage in locating or fastening the crime upon the proper person. This is not right for be he or she confessor or attorney, the state is bound to protect them as well as others; hence, all persons should be compelled to testify in open court—the priest, the attorney, the wife, or the husband—none should be permitted to conceal a crime or the party who committed it, under drastic penalties. None should be considered so high or so low that they could be excused from giving evi-

dence in criminal cases, no matter how they gained the knowledge. Our criminal practice is sadly in need of revision. Even in notorious and confessed cases the procedure is illogical and clumsy, vicious and dilatory and all in favor of the criminal. In criminal cases, if the defendant is to be tried for a second offense, a jury should be denied and he or she should be tried by the court only. It is all right to give the defendant a jury trial for the first offense, but when the defendant persists in waywardness it is nothing more than right for society to have an equal chance with the criminal. The criminal cares nothing for society. Then why should society be over anxious to give him a chance to go scot free by the aid of a sympathetic jury—one which has given its decision upon the fluent utterances of the criminal's attorney and not upon the evidence? The court would not likely be deluded in any such manner. The habitual criminal class should be, to some extent, under the surveillance of the medical fraternity, so that if it is a disease that medical science can cure, they should have the opportunity to eventually become trusted members of society. Society has an inherent right

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to say that the criminal class shall not perpetuate its species, and we should adopt such means that to do so would be naturally impossible. If criminality is a disease, then it is liable to go from father to son; hence, such an one should never have been allowed to have had a son. If the criminally inclined were taught what they might expect before the crime had been committed many would desist from doing so, especially if we so change our laws that there could be no excuse for him or her to do so to gain a living. You can depend upon it that when we cease to make so many millionaires as we have been, and divide the increments pro rata between all those who help to create them, it will give such an impetus to business that all our people will find it easy to secure profitable employment. Remove the very semblance of cause for not being employed in some useful avocation and you destroy the main excuse for crime. Not only this, but you elevate the morale of the whole nation so that the criminal class will get no sympathy from any quarter save that of their own class.

OATH.

No person should be required to take an oath to do or not to do, to tell or not to tell anything under any circumstances—except those imbeciles who will not testify truthfully without it, but false testimony should never be condoned, but rigid punishment should be meted out to a false testifyer. Such should be disbarred from ever after being allowed to cast a vote or holding any office, and for a second offense they should be banished from the nation, and where it occurs in suits for damages, they should be holden to the aggrieved party for double the amount of the damages lost in consequence thereof. In criminal cases the false testifyer should be given twice the penalty that the criminal would have received had it not been for the false testimony of the witness. A few doses of this kind of medicine would soon completely clarify the atmosphere in that direction. Where an attorney has persuaded a witness to testify falsely he should be disbarred from the practice of law and banished from the nation so that we could be sure he could not tamper with justice again.

These suggestions may seem harsh and cruel, but we have pondered over them a long time and feel justified in being severe to this class of offenders. Time and again criminals of the worst class have been turned loose upon society by proving an alibi through false testimony which originated in the fertile brain of the attorney or some villain of like character of the criminal's aider and abettor. We would not throw anything in the way of an innocent party, nor would we attempt to give such an one cause to think that society condemned him without a fair trial, but we would hold the habitual criminal to a strict interpretation of the law.

INDICTMENTS BY GRAND JURY.

Our grand jury system should be abolished and instead thereof there should be elected for the purpose of bringing indictments a board of three highly qualified lawyers. They should be well versed in criminal law and practice and should not be under thirty-five years of age at the time of their election. They should have the right to call in the party or parties

whom it was intended to indict if they thought it expedient to do so. There is a great deal of humbug connected with our grand jury system and society is unnecessarily taxed by this initiatory procedure of mediaeval times. Trained lawyers would know if the evidence was sufficient to convict. We should eliminate the probabilities of the county being in error as far as in our power to do so, because it would save expense to the county and suspect alike. Society has no more right to cast a cloud over the fair name of one of its members than an individual has, and such a board as has been suggested would seldom err in their findings. They should draw all indictments; issue warrants to the sheriff and declare the amount of the bond and take it or commit to jail, in murder cases, or hold for trial as the case may be. This would relieve the court in a great measure in large cities where time is of great consideration. Even if it was necessary to pay these experts in the law as much as the grand jury now costs, the county would save money because less indictments would be found and less expense be incurred than under our present system. The reason that a board of

three is suggested instead of one is that it would savor of one man power; nor would one be apt to give the subject matter that unbiased consideration that three would. There is another consideration to be taken into account that outweighs all others of money, expedition and justice, and that is in criminal cases the trial jury has the right to judge the law and the facts, that is to say, that if the lawmaking power had had the evidence before them as the jury had, that the law would not have been made as it was. Law is specific and demands a penalty for its infraction, but in criminal cases it often occurs to the jury that if the evidence produced in the case on hearing had been known to the lawmaking power, they would have made an exception in this case. Now, it is humane that the power to suspend the rigor of the law in the case should reside somewhere—we leave it to the jury and expert lawyers would not be apt to indict where such evidence would in all probability be produced—especially while they had the right to call the accused party before them to be better informed before indictment was issued.

PRACTICE.

The form of practice both in law and at equity should be simplified and compressed into reasonable bounds. The most direct and expeditious way to get at the facts in all cases of litigation should be the command of every judge and the practice of every lawyer, but the reverse seems to be the general rule at present. Perhaps when we attach a salary to every officer and clerk and discontinue every perquisite those who have the labor to perform will find a way to abbreviate procedure and enrollment into concrete form and not leave out any of the material facts in the matter at issue. Every state has a practice act and it is extremely doubtful if any two of them are alike, while the United States has another that could be remodeled without doing the courts any injury or litigants any harm, but as we propose to do away with state laws and practice, we will have only to deal with the practice in courts of the nation. Much good could be done for litigants if the plaintiff's attorney could summon the defendant to get his attorney and all parties together in an informal way and talk

over the differences. In a case of this kind each of the principal parties to the controversy should be considered as on neutral ground, no matter where they may meet. Yes, we would suggest that either party should have the right to call in a peace officer to insure decorum while the subject matter is being gone over. This would in many instances settle the dispute and save the county many lawsuits and suit expenses. Lawyers are like other men, braver when they are alone with their client than they are when confronted by another attorney equally as well versed in the law as they. We think litigants would find this course equally as satisfactory as appealing to the court to adjudicate their differences, and surely less expensive in a great many cases. Here they could settle their misunderstandings without jeopardizing any of their respective rights—both attorneys would have a clearer insight into the subject matter after the conference and if honest to their client would advise a settlement of the difference amicably. This kind of initiatory would be apt to relieve the courts of an immense amount of litigation and the county a large sum of money. We are not

sure but in some states this kind of procedure is in practice but what we want is for the nation to adopt it and also to simplify court procedure to the utmost limit for the mutual interest of litigants and society. Those who will demur to this cannot have the interest of society in view, but rather a sordid selfish interest to subserve, therefore their wishes and denunciations should have but little weight in a matter of such grave import to the general public. If other branches of investive science were hedged about with such practice as that of the law practice, radioactivity would not be known and used to-day nor many other useful discoveries that science has disclosed and made useful to man. But, says one, how are you going to simplify the practice of the law procedure? The lawyer will not formulate it for you and the court feels no inclination to perform the task. Grant that both these parties are disinclined to do so upon their own initiatory, then we will offer a reward for the most simple, practical, and condensed formula to be produced, and demand that the Congress enact it into law. This would set more brains to thinking among the legal class than ever before.

When the whole people demand a reform, there is always enough to come forward to perform the duty, especially if a generous reward is in sight when the work is completed. Never fear.

OFFICIAL ARROGANCE.

Sad as it may seem to the normal mind, and improbable as it may look to such an one, official arrogance is a subject the people should take cognizance of before it reaches greater proportions. It crops out in civil, military, and naval officialdom to a greater or less degree, and woe to the self-respected person who has to bear with the insolence of these self-sufficient officials. One has to lose, for the time being, his self-respect and curb his just resentment to keep from annihilating such an one on the spot. We suppose that the civil, military, and naval service could be performed to our entire satisfaction without employing these official arrogants. We cannot conceive of any position in which it is absolutely necessary to have an arrogant to gain an ideal service, and for that reason would suggest that arrogance in an official when proven should disqualify the arro-

gant from holding any office either civil, military, or naval in the service of the government or municipality. If a person cannot practice affability and courtesy in an official capacity then he should be disbarred from holding any office. Again, to be an arrogant is to disclose a want of normal development that of itself should disqualify one for the proper performance of the duties of any office. A summary way should be provided to dispense with the services of such an one at once. Urbanity, suavity and patience should be essentials of an officer. We think this subject is so patent that the people need not be further urged to find a way to destroy the evil in all quarters of our service. A constitutional disqualification would soon rid our service of those undesirable persons. Can we have it?

SUPERSTITION.

In the common law, there are principles set forth that are founded upon superstition or at least there is no way to prove to a sane and inquisitive mind that they have any tangible principle to stand upon, but nevertheless they are

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carried along from generation to generation, and ever and anon are used as a precedent to base some decision upon—they should be eliminated from the common law. If we would by constitutional amendment give the judiciary the right to declare them obsolete or void, it would not take long before they would not be taking up the time of the courts or annoying our citizens. We might go farther and state that many statutes are liable to the same criticism, and not be far from the truth. Too many statutes are enacted at the solicitation of some self-constituted body which is based upon some single idea. These one-idea people perhaps expect to cure all existing evils by a statutory provision. They predicate their demands on self-conclusions formulated where it would be considered sacrilegious to offer a negative, and they so persistently force their ideas upon the majority of the committee having their bill under advisement that the bill passes and the panacea becomes a part of the law of the land and the judiciary is called upon to enforce it. Then for the first time the enormity of the act is disclosed. Now it is found that the only warrant for enacting this superstitious

statute is to be found in the disorganized brain of this self-constituted body of busybodies. The courts say it has no power to annul the law—all the power it has is to carry it into execution. Go to the legislative body if you want it repealed. Now, if the judge were satisfied that the basic principle of the statute under which the action was brought was superstition, he should have the right to so declare, and that decision render the statute nugatory and void. What, compel a just and upright judge to execute a superstitious law! Would you go back to the days of witchcraft? Do we want the court's time taken up to no good purpose? Then why not empower the court to shield society from the acts of superstition? No place else would the affirmative and negative have more consideration or be more liable to come to a just conclusion. Volumes could be written to amplify and sustain our position, but we will desist and leave that to others.

THE UNION.

And now we come to that part of our subject where we can see the wide-mouthed, lim-

ber-tongued orator, vibrating in every muscle and anxious to devour us without the formality of mastication—he of the kind that is easy to explode. This animated disturber of the air seldom waits to consider a subject, but attacks it with all the ferocity of his nature, if he thinks his auditors will be led to believe that their inalienable rights are in jeopardy. But we have anticipated all this and more too, and yet expect to succeed.

We do not intend to destroy the union of our people, but to complete the union and make one nation out of all the people who hold allegiance to these United States. Our purpose is to give the voter a more direct rein upon his representative than he ever has enjoyed. It is true we wish to do away with state laws and state functions, but we wish to give each person of twenty-one years of age who has lived in the nation twenty-one years the right to have a voice as to who shall hold office of any kind, and, to do away with bossism, we propose that all the electors shall by vote nominate those whom they wish to vote for, provided they pass a successful examination showing they are qualified to fill the office they are

nominated for. We desire to have this nation as democratic as possible, but as we are too numerous to enact laws directly by the people, we must adopt the next best alternative and elect all our officers by a direct vote of the people. By this method we retain a greater amount of sovereignty than we now enjoy in the various states. And we propose to terminate the official rights of any officer when a reasonable majority of his constituents think it is to their interest to do so. This would not extend to the Exchequer because their fiduciary trust is of such a nature that we think it not advisable. Their body will be sufficiently large to insure judicious management, and yet not so large that they could not work in harmony.

Our country passed through a civil war that caused the death of millions of our people and cost billions of money and property to save the union, and we don't want any more of that kind of statesmanship to try men's souls or pockets, either, for that matter. We propose to make our people more homogeneous, happy, and companionable. We wish to elevate, to consolidate, to unify every and all our people

for the individual and collective good and the nation's glory.

NORTH AMERICA.

The boundary which divides the British possessions from the United States on the north is for the most part an invisible line. The people of both subdivisions to a great extent are homogeneous. What actuates, propels, and energizes those of one section finds a duplicate in the other. They intermarry as readily as do the people of the several states and it is not thought to be unusual in any sense. Aside from having different forms of government, they are as one people and are becoming united in their ideas as to government economics as fast as the people of the respective states. The boundary line has to be officially watched to keep the people from exchanging commodities as freely as they have a right to do in their own political subdivisions. Of course, this causes, to a greater or less extent, an official friction between the two governments, but the people of both elude the officials without compunction, and never allude to it in their sup-

plications. Neither consider they have committed a sin of that magnitude that they should implore divine forgiveness. Now, do you think these people will forever keep up two political governments? It is unreasonable to expect it. We have no sinister designs upon Canada and need not have, for all we have to do is to make our government more perfect and the citizens of that country will come to us without our solicitation or connivance. If we improve our opportunities by advancing our civil and economic system by adopting the reforms heretofore suggested, they—the whole people—will find a peaceable way to join us politically. The Anglo-Saxon race has advanced to that degree of enlightenment that they can create ways and means to an end of consolidation without a resort to war.

England would not wish to hold Canada if a large part of the Canadians desired to unite with our government. What is best for the whole people would be considered as commercially best for England. While we will always hold aloof from any entangling alliance with any European power, we could not stand idly by and see England destroyed. We could not

do so to-day, much less when Canada unites with us, for we would find some pretext for taking the part of our mother country. No, the Anglo-Saxon race is too firmly united to let any other race destroy any branch of the family. Let the Canadians convince the Englishman that he preferred to be a part of this nation to that of allegiance to England and he will interpose no insurmountable barrier to the consummation of the union. But we must show England and Canada that we have a more equitable and just system of political freedom before either will seriously consider any coalescing tendencies. Nature has joined all North America in one compact body and given it such a diversity of climate, soil, and mineral deposits that a homogeneous people could procure and create all the necessities of life for a great many millions of people to live happy, contented and prosperous. Will man do his part in imitating nature in this respect? We think he will, and that much sooner than is generally expected.

PERORATION.

Reader, we do not claim credit for originat-

ing all the ideas that have been suggested, but the central ideas and nearly all the auxiliaries have originated from a contemplation reaching back for the last forty years on the subjects. We have criticised them and numerous others that from time to time have suggested themselves to our consideration. True, during that time we have often conceived an idea that for a time we thought would solve the problem that we found afterwards only thin air, nor did we ever find upon studying those ideas any way to form a system until we finally took into consideration our complex governmental systems as they now exist. From that time on to this all that had to be considered was how to present the subjects so as to awaken a patriotic interest in the minds of our people, feeling confident they would make any reasonable sacrifice of their preconceived notions to eradicate the imperfection of our unscientific political system that might be asked of them in a patriotic spirit.

In bygone days we had hoped to be financially able to hire the best literary talent the country has produced and rewrite the Constitution of the Federal Government and send

copies to every school teacher in the United States, with the request that they get the adults of their district to sign the same and remail it to us. Then we would have had documentary evidence of the wants and desires of the people of that conclusive character that the Congress would have passed the necessary resolution so that the states would have readily confirmed the wish of the people. But life is full of disappointments, and death is sure, so to our amazement our hair became white, our step slow and measured, our blood lethargic and our memory erratic, while our finances were only in the mind. One reason for our financial inability to do as we had intended is that this subject would come up and command attention when a financial opportunity offered, and, sad to confess, we were not double-minded enough to carry on the two in conjunction, so you see, if we have any part in reorganizing the fundamental principles of our organic law, this is the only avenue left open to us—it may prove the best for the people, and if so, we will be the happiest of mortals. If our people can be convinced that we have offered a solution that is likely to better our condition, we

feel that they will not be slow to put it into execution. Not until we got the idea of creating another co-ordinate branch of the government could we suggest any improvement in the law that was not open to serious criticism, but from the very day this idea took hold of our meditations the task has been easy. The Congress will never adopt it unless the people in their sovereign capacity demand it in unmistakable tones. Let us look at the possibilities of this new departure. No combinations of men or interests could ever get a death grip upon the wealth of the republic. No combination of interests and capital could dictate to the nation its policy, nor any class be unified and inimical to the interest of the individual or the nation. Knowledge and cleverness could not filch from the ignorant and poor, nor could any combination, trust, or merger be introduced, operated, or carried on that could in any way enslave our people on land or sea. The Exchequer would be the great balance wheel that would keep the energies of our people forever revolving for the good of male and female alike all over our whole country. The opportunities to create large wealth would

be a thing of the past. We would not destroy individuality, but we would gently limit it by reasonable bounds. All our citizens who exercise a reasonable effort would be insured a decent and respectable living without working the very life out of them to get it. The large dividends that now go to make a few very rich would be distributed among those who helped to create it, and, as they would be numerous, the public would have an increase of business far beyond anything they have realized heretofore. This would advance our intellectual and material prosperity far beyond that of any nation on the globe and it would elevate the masses from poverty and want to self-respect and comfort.

Too often prosperity leads to dissipation and profligacy, but we have forestalled the former possibility by giving the Exchequer the sole right to manufacture and retail intoxicants. This will do more to make us a temperate people than all the temperance societies that have ever been formed. It is the abuse of intoxicants that has been a curse to our people, not the temperate use of them. If ten per cent of the funds that have been used in the temper-

ance cause had been intelligently used to the end we have outlined, drunkenness would long since have ceased. Why the temperance advocates ignore the good intoxicants have done in the world for the humankind is one of the unexplainable things we never could comprehend; however, we think they will give us some support, because we advocate female suffrage and giving them the same pay as men. We could never believe that one person, on account of sex, should receive more pay for the same labor than another. It always looked inequitable and unjust, and as all our suggestions are based upon equitable grounds and the theory that all our citizens—both male and female—are endowed with equal rights and privileges, we must contend that the ballot be given to females to the same extent as to males of twenty-one years of age. This of course made it necessary to find some other way than the present mode to cast our ballots, so we adopted that of voting through the Post Office in duplicate form. If our female suffragists will indorse the ideas set forth herein they will find that they can realize what they have been contending for much easier and quicker than they

can to continue their agitation on the lines they have adopted. We have another reason for incorporating the female into the body politic that is of far reaching importance. The female has a more direct way of getting at a proposition than the male. With the male precedence goes a great way, but not so with the female—she sees a direct way out of a dilemma quicker than we do, and proceeds in a direct line until she has accomplished her desire and let precedence go to the wind.

Many of our laws have for their basic principle superstition, and should be repealed. Men will not be half as apt to take the initiatory in repealing them as women would. As an illustration, we remember that during the Spanish-American war the government sent a lot of wounded and sick soldiers not far from New York without providing proper provision for the men. Miss Helen Miller Gould heard of their condition and on investigation supplied them necessities and gave them necessities and delicacies immediately. No red tape for her—humanity was suffering and she stopped it as far as human power could by immediate action. Will we never learn that we are naturally too

clumsy to have the whole charge of humanity? Are we so puffed up and proud that we cannot understand that women are co-equal with men? Our actions say that old nature did not know his business when he created woman. Miss Gould showed more sense, more humanity, more generosity than all officialdom, civil, military, and naval did on that occasion. She did it because it was the right thing to do. She saw suffering and her good sense and ample means were set in motion before a man could get ready to think how to act or what to do. If man labored under the same disabilities politically that woman does, do you think they would be as bright as they are. We do not, and for that reason and the further one that it is justice to give them the same political rights men enjoy, we advocate it with all the energy of our nature. We are not so egotistical as to think we have suggested all the ideas that could be formulated into sections as amendments to the Federal Constitution with advantage to our people, nor do we suppose that we are the only parties who have given those subjects which we have suggested thought. If the secular press will take up the subjects the

people will be surprised to find how many others have been forced to like conclusions. Perhaps something better may be offered, and if so we are willing to withdraw ours and will enthusiastically do all we can to forward the movement to adopt the other. It is results we want and not theories.

Every once in a while some advocate belches forth some one idea that he claims will bring the millennium immediately, but practical men soon decide the reformer has not properly considered the multitudinous interests involved, and they turn away—we hope we do not come under that class of advocates. What we complain of is continuing our complex political system that should have long since been relegated to history—it is clumsy; it is expensive; it is worn out; its days of usefulness have long since passed. It ought to give place to a simple, just system. Why should we wait longer? If the politicians have any patriotism in them they will formulate these ideas or create better ones, into proper articles and sections and make them a part of the Constitution. They will do it if the people demand and force them and not otherwise. If the people all over the

country will form societies and debate these live subjects the politician will see the handwriting on the wall and go to work at once. If we were financially able it would not take us long to have this matter under discussion in every community throughout the land, but we are not and never expect to be, so don't fear, Mr. Politician, for otherwise you might well shudder. Those who can look with equanimity upon the organizing of employes all over North America on the one hand and the employers on the other and not know there is something wrong with the body politic, are stolid, indeed. Is it reasonable to believe that these parties would so antagonize each other if each did not believe the other was seeking an undue advantage? They both form unions because they don't know any better. They both act silly and they have not sense enough to see it. They are both foolish and don't know it. One is the forerunner of the banditti while the other courts destruction. They must both be brought to a realization that they live in a civilized country that will see justice given to all. The moral cowards must give way—they must stop their dictation, their waste, their murder and

their arson. They have the audacity to threaten the government with oblivion. We cannot and will not forever let them menace our fair land. They shall be made to listen to reason and do what is right between man and man. Free men will not stand for interdict unless they themselves are the authors. These two parties cost the general public in cash every year more than it would take to remodel our laws so we can make them work in peace the balance of their days. Who will start the crusade to destroy these two disturbing elements? Neither life or property is secure while we tolerate these two opposing parties. Many of both parties will hail the day the doom of their associations is heard, but a measly few of both will die fighting to the last when the nation proclaims them outlaws. Shall we freemen allow self-constituted bodies to usurp the prerogatives of the nation, and make laws inimical to those of the government, and not crush them to dust? Both of you beware how you trample under your feet the rights of an indulgent government—the people. The best thing you both can do is to about face and aid in amplifying the law so both your interests

will be protected. Remember that a part is never as great as the whole. Yes, remember the military is always stronger than the mob and be wise before it is too late. Have you in your blind career no thought of your families' future? History shows us that all such associations as yours are quite humble until they become numerous and wealthy, and then they become overbearing, erratic, and finally oppressive. The idea of any self-constituted body abridging the rights of a free people. It is too monstrous to be tolerated any longer. All this is sufficiently plain to those interested parties in both associations for them to understand and pause. What has been written herein that you can take exception to and make you rather continue in your present unlawful course than to help unify the nation for the common good of all our people? The idea that you can dictate in secret what a free people shall do and how they shall do it, or you will pummel or murder them, is a little too autocratic to be tolerated longer. Remember that we are a nation in the minds of the people at large and that they never will allow any association to get strong enough to de-

stroy it—that was tried once and signally failed.

No association of persons has any moral or legal right to intimidate, maltreat, maim, murder, or blacklist any person for doing or not doing any legal act whatsoever in the United States, and never will have. It is against the common law and the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, and every Constitution in the United States. Cowards and imbeciles alone will resort to that kind of illegality. Which class do you wish to be known by, Mr. Association Man?

During the civil war there was an association formed and organized in many of the middle western states called the Knights of the Golden Circle, one object of which was to burn Chicago and liberate the Confederate prisoners confined in Camp Douglas, etc. The President—A. Lincoln—gave several of the militia generals furloughs that they might come North and arouse the people to a realization of the danger this “fire-in-the-rear” movement forecast if it was not blotted out at once for the Union’s success. Those generals that came handled the subject without gloves. The Union

League was formed, and before the conspirators had time to put their nefarious plot into execution, they became convinced that every one of them would be shot or hung if they made the attempt. Conspirators are generally cowards—very few are desperadoes. Cannot these two latter-day associations take warning from the Golden Circle's fate? Thousands of men were drawn into the Golden Circle that, after they saw how public sentiment looked upon them, did everything they could to make amends, and this is what will happen to these two latter-day associations when they see where they are being led by designing or imbecile leaders. We offer an easy, practical, just, and legal way to settle the whole question and have it of universal application while all retain their individual freedom—no fair man will ask for more. One dollar apiece from these warring parties would cover all the cost necessary to remodel the Constitution and set the various departments in working order.

One reason these subjects have never been acted upon is that we have so many men whose hands are ever itching to handle public revenues. They are afraid there will not be of-

fices enough if anything practical is incorporated that will do away with so many political positions. We know of but one way to better our political position and that is to formulate what we want and elect men pledged to adopt that formula into the organic law of the land—the Constitution.

We appeal to the teachers of our common schools to discuss the principles this work contains, before their pupils, having full confidence in their ability to so impress our ideas upon the minds of the young that they will not be totally lost if the present adult generation does not improve the present opportunity to put them into execution. We have discussed these subjects with a great many persons and have received their assurance that they would support them to a greater or less extent, but that we could never induce the political class to adopt them. We think we have shown how to deal with them so they will be only too glad to make the movement an accomplished fact. Most politicians have families and none know better than they that office-holding seldom runs from father to son, so that, if anything, they should take advantage of their position

to give their offspring as sure a possibility to gain a livelihood as they could by improving their opportunities to do so. One of the shortcomings of our people is that they do not take sufficient active interest in the nomination of that class of men who are the least likely to come forward and work for their nomination. If we were compelled to write our preference for nominees in duplicate form and send one to our nearest Post Office and the other to the next nearest, so that when they came to take them to the county seat to be counted they could be verified by the duplicates, we would be more apt to vote for those only who we thought were qualified to fill the position with credit to themselves and satisfaction to us. The postal carriers could easily canvass the domiciles of the voters to verify their right to vote. By this method electioneering as now carried on would be so laborious that but little of it would be done.

We firmly believe that one of the most just and equitable modes of getting revenue for public purposes is a graduated income tax. The only way to make this possible is by a constitutional amendment. We have read a great

many articles against an income tax, but to our mind none of them appeared logical, but of those written to sustain the income tax, we have read many articles that had the ring of justice from start to finish. When the nation does all the banking and insurance, the main argument against this tax will be taken away from the advocates of no tax on incomes, namely, the prying into one's business. We generally take plenty of time to consider any subject of the import this has, especially when our United States Supreme Court has declared an income tax unconstitutional, and would not advocate it if our judgment did not decide in the affirmative. A nation that makes it possible for one of its citizens to make an abnormal profit through its indulgence should be entitled to its seigniorage—who could better afford to pay?

We turn now to that class who are called the great captains of industry, in all its ramifications, and in the start we will say that we expect to receive more encouragement from this class of our fellow beings, who will take the time to read this book, than any other class of our citizens. We know you lead a very busy

and laborious life; we also know that many of you have given the subject we have been writing on deep thought, yes, anxious meditation, but you never got a satisfactory solution to your reveries. With your quick, intuitive perspection, you can readily believe that we have been pondering over this subject for forty years, much easier than can one out of thousands of your employes. You will believe us when we tell you that we have not suggested all the reforms we would like to—only those few which are sure to start us in the right direction as a nation. None know better than you that in the initiatory of a subject of the magnitude of this it is highly necessary to eliminate the brilliant surface minds—those which flash like a spark from an electric street lamp—from leadership. You know this subject must have calm, deep thought and painstaking meditation. We know that the change of national administration has at times cost our people hundreds of millions in American money that might not have been but of nominal effect if we had possessed a system like the one here outlined. You have seen those who did not take in sail at the first swell

of the human tide, go under never to rise again on the ocean of commerce. We know the first to feel any disturbance in the economics of the business world are the active multimillionaires, then the millionaires, and so on down to the poorest among us. Among your number we have many acquaintances, and often we have called upon them when we pitied their condition. There they sat surrounded by a busy set of employes who were working out the plans coming from a tired brain, an over-worked brain—a brain that was soon to collapse. They knew we pitied them and it proved a tonic for a while. Human nature has metes and bounds beyond which we cannot go. Some are dead that should be alive and would be if we were not bound to this baronical, feudal system that drives one to be a millionaire or a bankrupt if he engages in a competitive business. Merger would do much to prolong life in those engaged in business, but our United State Supreme Court says that merger is unlawful, hence we need a constitutional provision to make it possible to save life and do business upon economic principles.

You can appreciate the necessity of paying

the members of the Exchequer a good, round salary, and therefore you can see why they should be prohibited from continuing in or becoming connected in any commercial enterprise whatever, either directly or indirectly, during the life of their official incumbency.

Here is a chance for Mr. Carnegie to work out his ideas for the betterment of the people of this republic. If he is correctly reported in the press, he thinks it the greatest problem of this age. His ample means would enable him to soon make it an accomplished fact.

You may say, with truth, too, that even what we have offered if put into operation would not give us a scientific political system. This we freely grant, but we affirm that it would start us upon the road to a just system, and that throughout the periodical constitutional convention we would in a few decades reach a system—while growing up with it—one that would better our race and their condition many fold. Our position in life has not given us—for the want of funds—all the opportunities that should be enjoyed to make us familiar with all the abuses that may need correction. If such as you will give your influence toward getting

the press to prepare the minds of the general public to adopt our ideas or formulate others that are better, you will have not been born in vain.

If the monied class would finance this movement they would do more real, practical good for our people in the near future than all the eleemosynary institutions among us.

TREASON.

Some of our over-timid fellow citizens fear that if we go to meddling with the organic law of the states, or that of the United States, that we might be arrested and tried for treason. To those over-cautious souls, we refer to Article III. of Section 3, of the Constitution of the United States of America, which reads as follows: "Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court." And this constitution says: "We, the people, etc., etc., do ordain and estab-

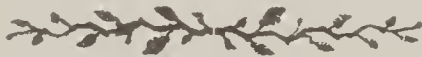
lish this Constitution for the United States of America.” No, there is nothing in this fear that should disturb the equanimity of the most timid patriot. The fact is that as the citizens of these United States we are all sovereigns and could legally create, ordain, and establish a single constitution for our government by any mode of procedure we might choose to adopt, and it would become the organic law of the nation from the hour the majority of our people subscribed thereto. This power resides in our individual sovereignty, and as a free people we have a perfect recognized right to make a new Constitution in any manner or at any time, without leave or license other than the will of the majority of our citizens. Will we do it?

Now, reader, we will leave the subject with you, for your action or inaction, as you decide, hoping you will not receive as many rebuffs as we have, while we will try to gain a sufficiency of this world’s goods to take care of us and those we should care for during our declining years.

But if the people think it is advisable to furnish the author the money and have the

Federal Constitution rearranged, as heretofore indicated, at once, and will give their influence toward getting it properly signed, we are willing to undertake the task now. The sooner the work is done the better it will be for all our people, for not a year rolls by but what we waste far more wealth—besides the deaths that occur—than it will take to remodel our laws so that they would be in harmony with our developments in other sciences.

We now make a special request of the clergy of all denominations, the public speakers of all kinds; the theatrical authors and delineators; the legal profession and debaters in general, as well as the secular and religious press to devote thought, time and reflection, both meditative and exclamatory, in arousing our whole people to act at once on this subject for our common good and humanity's uplifting throughout the civilized world.



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